

Cambridge retains lead in world traitor league

CAMBRIDGE University's production of twentieth century traitors has, alas, been world class. Some colleges, admittedly, have done better (or worse) than others. Trinity clearly tops the university league of KGB moles (chief among them Kim Philby, John Cairncross, Guy Burgess and Anthony Blunt), as it does of Nobel laureates. Oxford's record on both Soviet moles and Nobel prizes is inferior to Cambridge's, but there have been repeated suggestions, most recently in yesterday's *Guardian* (for you might wish to say Wednesday's Washington press conference), that Oxford's mole production has been seriously underestimated.

The first significant attempt to boost the reputation of Oxford traitors came in 1981 when Chapman Pincher's claim that Sir Roger Hollis, graduate of Worcester College, Oxford, and director general of MI5 from 1956 to

1965, had been a Soviet spy, made the front pages. Mr Pincher's story was subsequently repeated in *Spycatcher* by his principal source, Peter Wright. It has since been authoritatively dismissed by, among others, Oleg Gordievsky, who worked as a British mole within the KGB from 1974 to 1985.

In 1987, there were other claims that, although Hollis was innocent, his MI5 deputy, Graham Mitchell, of Magdalen College, Oxford, had been a Soviet super-mole. The circle of mole hunters who still credit that implausible tale is probably even smaller than those who believe in the guilt of the much-maligned Hollis.

Ironically, the KGB bungled its only known opportunity over the past decade to recruit an Oxford mole within MI5. On Easter Sunday, 1983, a middle-ranking MI5 officer, Michael Bettaney,

KGB claims of an Oxford spy ring to match Cambridge's "magnificent five" seem less than convincing, says Christopher Andrew

graduate of Pembroke College, Oxford, stuffed an envelope of MI5 documents through the letter box of the KGB resident (head of station) in London, Arkadi Guk. Bettaney, however, had failed to grasp that Guk's role within the KGB somewhat resembled that of Inspector Clouseau within the French Sûreté. Guk dismissed the approach as an MI5 provocation. Two further packets of highly classified documents pushed through his letter box by Bettaney were interpreted as further provocations by the hapless Guk. Bettaney was later sentenced to 23 years in jail.

Now the former KGB First Chief (foreign intelligence) Directorate claims that it will produce detailed evidence of Oxford traitors whose work, it

alleges, was as "crucial" as that of the Cambridge moles. There has been no doubt for some time that the KGB (then the NKVD) was recruiting in Oxford as well as Cambridge during the 1930s. A decade ago, I interviewed on BBC *Timewatch* the retired Oxford don Jennifer Hart, who described the unsuccessful attempts to recruit her by a KGB controller. If the former KGB really does open its Oxford archives, they will undoubtedly reveal successes as well as failures.

For the moment, however, we should be naive to take KGB publicity entirely at its face value. This time last year, as reported in *The Times*, the KGB released allegedly sensational KGB files which, according to Oleg Tsarev of the KGB public relations depart-

ment (who is also involved in the recent publicity about the Oxford revelations) showed that in May, 1941, Rudolf Hess, after his flight to Scotland, gave the British Hitler's invasion plans against the Soviet Union. Few Western historians take that remarkable allegation seriously.

Mr Tsarev's claims that Oxford moles played as crucial a role as their Cambridge counterparts also appear at first sight less than convincing. Since the second world war, the KGB has privately identified five of its agents as able than the rest. All were Cambridge graduates: Philby, Cairncross, Blunt, Burgess and Donald Maclean. After the release of the film *The Magnificent Seven* in 1960, the KGB began calling them "the magnificent five". The claim that Maclean was "by far the most important Soviet agent in the Cambridge group" is equally implausible.

For the moment, it is reasonable to suspect that part of the former KGB's motive for a selective release of files on some of its past successes derives from a desire to rehabilitate its tarnished reputation. The most important KGB documents to become available since last August's coup are, probably, not those promised us by Mr Tsarev, but those collected by Mr Gordievsky during his 11 years as a British mole.

Mr Gordievsky's documents include KGB directives on operations in Britain, the United States and elsewhere, as recently as the beginning of the Gorbachev era. They reveal a KGB which, by the 1980s, was very far from the glory days of its Oxbridge recruitment in the 1930s.

Dr Christopher Andrew, director of studies in history at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, is co-author of *KGB: The Inside Story*.

Scott creates fine sequel to the Fifth Man

By Michael Evans, Defence Correspondent

THE unveiling of the KGB archives in Moscow has added a new twist to the decades-old hunt for British moles working for the Russians during and after the second world war. Just as the search for the Fifth Man created a literary industry of its own, so the attempt to identify the mysterious "Scott", leader of an Oxford spy ring, will generate a heated debate.

The Oxford ring never achieved the cause célèbre status of the famous Cambridge ring, partly because none of the suspects defected to Moscow. However, the reference to the leader of the Oxford ring with his code-name Scott in the files, which are to be published in a deal with the Russian intelligence service, indicates that the more powerful and influential Cambridge spy team may have been backed up by an effective second espionage group.

Peter Wright, the former MI5 officer, referred to the Oxford ring in his controversial book *Spycatcher*. He said a left-wing dining and discussion club called Clarendon which met during the 1930s was a centre for Soviet espionage recruitment. He named two members of the ring including Bernard Floud, a Labour MP, who committed suicide shortly after being interrogated by MI5 on suspicion of being a Soviet agent.

Mr Wright made no mention of an agent codenamed Scott. Yesterday, Oleg Gordievsky, the former KGB officer who worked for the British secret intelligence service MI6, said he was not aware of an Oxford ring and did not know who Scott might be. According to the KGB files, Scott was an old Etonian who held a senior

position in the Foreign Office. Two names have emerged in recent years: men whose careers were affected by a degree of mystery, intrigue and suspicion. One was Peter Wilson, former chairman of Sotheby's, who died in 1984, and worked for MI6 during the second world war. Throughout much of his career there were rumours that he was the Fifth Man in the Philby, Burgess, Maclean and Blunt spy scandals. The rumours were fuelled by his sudden departure from Sotheby's in 1979, four days after the exposure of Anthony Blunt as a former Soviet spy.

Mr Wilson was educated at Eton and at New College, Oxford. While serving with MI6, he worked in Washington.

Chapman Pincher, the author of spy books, said yesterday, "Peter Wright told me that Peter Wilson was suspected by MI5."

The other candidate was Sir Anthony Rumbold, a former senior British diplomat, who was alleged to have been named by a Soviet defector, Rupert Allason, the Tory MP for Torbay who writes under the pseudonym Nigel West, said in his book *The Friends: Britain's Post-War Secret Intelligence Operations*: "Rumbold had enjoyed a lifelong friendship with Donald Maclean. He had been best man at Rumbold's first marriage. There was no new evidence against Rumbold, so the case was passed to MI5 and shelved."

Blunt, who died in 1983, was educated at Eton and Magdalen College, Oxford. He joined the Foreign Office in 1935 and had postings in Washington, Prague, Paris, London, Thailand and Vienna.



Fountain of gold: Nicky Harris, of Bonhams, holding a 1903 Waterman fountain pen, expected to fetch up to £7,000 at auction in London tomorrow. It is thought that only about five of the pens still exist

Hospitals face £200m deficit

By Jeremy Laurance, Health Services Correspondent

LONDON'S hospitals could be overspent by £200 million by the end of the financial year, according to health authority managers. The size of the deficit, more than four times higher than appears in published plans, could spell disaster for big institutions unless swift action is taken.

Financial plans for the four Thames regions show that they have set aside £45 million this year in contingency funds to help hospitals in difficulty. But managers at the annual conference of the National Association of Health Authorities and

Trusts in Harrogate said that the health authorities were using accounting devices to disguise the amount being held back, which was in reality much higher. Much of the growth money allocated to London this year is being held in reserve to shore up services rather than to expand them, they said.

John Cooper, chief executive of the Royal Free Hospital trust, said "It is widely believed that far more extensive contingency reserves are being made by the regions which could be as much as £200 million."

A report from the King's Fund Commission earlier this week recommended the closure of at least 15 hospitals and 5,000 beds in London over the next 18 years, but managers said that the time scale was too long. "Major decisions have got to be made within the year," David Marlow, chief executive of Hammersmith and Queen Charlotte hospitals, said.

University College and Middlesex hospitals are already facing a £20 million shortfall on their contract income for this year. Charing Cross Hospital has set aside

£18 million this year and £25 million next year. St Bartholomew's is rumoured to be in a similar position.

The true situation in London is worse than acknowledged because the special hospitals, including the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, are funded separately and are not part of the internal market.

A government enquiry under Sir Bernard Tomlinson, which is expected to recommend immediate measures to avert disaster, is due to report to ministers in the autumn.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Open verdict given on sunken vessel

Improved shipping identification procedures were called for yesterday by an inquest jury which returned open verdicts on five trawlers who died when their boat sank in the Strait of Dover last August. The 43-tonne *Ocean Hound* sank at night, probably after being hit by two ships. The jury foreman at the inquest in Brixham, Devon recommended that identification devices should be fitted to ships, and the coroner said in his summing-up: "Investigations of this nature could be made so much easier if ships carried a form of automatic signalling device which would indicate their identity. The trawlers were the skipper and co-owner, Alan Nicholson, 37, his son James, 17, Keith Curtis, 54, Mark Davies, 26 and Andrew Nash, 30. The inquest was told by Keith Dixon, of the transport department's Marine Accidents Investigation Branch, that it was impossible to trace the vessels that collided with the trawler. The *Ocean Hound* was probably clipped by a ship off the Kent coast at 11.37pm on August 10 and capsized. It appears to have drifted for almost six hours before possibly being smashed and sunk by an impact from another unknown craft.

Judge faces questions

Tables will be turned on a crown court judge tomorrow when he will face questions from the public. Judge Fox, QC, will be on hand to answer queries from people attending what is believed to be the first open day of its kind, at Teesside combined courts in Middlesbrough. On view will be the judges' chambers, their retiring and dining rooms, a jury room, a civil court, three crown courts, including one equipped with a video link for sensitive evidence, administrative offices and the cells. The Lord Chancellor's department has chosen the Teesside complex as it is one of the country's newest, having been opened last month by Lord Justice Taylor, the new Lord Chief Justice. Other courts elsewhere in the country are expected to be opened to the public later this year.

Hope for heart victims

Magnesium injected into the veins of heart attack victims can reduce deaths by a quarter, according to a study published in this week's *Lancet*. Dr Kent Woods and colleagues at the University of Leicester and Leicester Royal Infirmary tested the treatment on 2,316 patients. They administered magnesium sulphate intravenously over a 24-hour period as soon as possible after the patient arrived in hospital. The results showed that for every 1,000 patients treated, 25 lives were saved. "This is a simple, safe and cheap treatment for suspected acute heart attack, costing no more than a few pounds per patient treated," Dr Woods said. Professor Desmond Julian of the British Heart Foundation said that it was likely that the use of magnesium would become routine.

Chess win confirmed

England has finished in tenth place in the World Chess Olympics in Manila after the end of the last adjourned games. Russia, headed by Gary Kasparov, the world champion, took the gold medal with 39 points out of a possible 56, with Uzbekistan the silver with 35 points and Armenia the bronze with 34.5. The other top teams, in order, were America, Latvia, Iceland, Croatia, Georgia and Ukraine. The challenge from the fragmented states of the former Soviet Union proved too much for England who had been seeded second before the event. Especially outstanding was the performance of Uzbekistan, whose team included only one grandmaster. The English team finished just ahead of Germany, Czechoslovakia, China, Hungary, Sweden, Holland and France.

Trouser rule contested

Preparations for the annual degree ceremony at Birmingham University next month have led some women who will be graduating to challenge a ruling on who can wear trousers. Letters from university administrators to 2,500 students who will be awarded their degrees state that men should wear a dark suit, white shirt and tie while women ought to be attired in dark skirt and white blouse. But some women want the right to wear trousers and have collected 1,000 names in protest at the ruling, which they say is sexist and old-fashioned. The petition is being sent to Professor Sir Michael Thompson, the vice-chancellor. Matthew Cruise, the students' guild president, was assured yesterday by administrators, however, that no woman would be barred from the degree awards for wearing trousers.

New C4 chief named

Sir Michael Bishop, right, is to be the next chairman of Channel 4 Television. It was announced yesterday. Already deputy chairman, he takes up his new position on the board later in the year. David Plowright becomes deputy chairman. The outgoing chairman Sir Richard Attenborough said that the new appointments would ensure the continuation of the channel's editorial quality and independence.



Schoolboy detained

A 15-year-old schoolboy with convictions for rape and burglary was found guilty at the Old Bailey of robbery and possessing an imitation firearm. Judge Coombe, QC, ordered the boy, of Wandsworth, southwest London, to be detained for three years in addition to the two years and ten months he is serving for rape. In December 1990 the boy was given a two-year supervision order for burglary and possession of a weapon. Since then he has been found guilty of four burglaries. Last November, on bail charged with raping a girl aged 14, he robbed a youth at gunpoint.

Arsonist jailed

A woman who set fire to a nursing home, killing a resident, was jailed for eight years yesterday. Doris Simpson, 83, died after being overcome by smoke when Nnalu Uduku, 34, set fire to The Limes in Keighley, West Yorkshire, last June. Leeds Crown Court was told. Louise Godfrey, for the prosecution, said that Uduku had started the fire because the home was losing £2,000 a month. Uduku, of Woodford Green, northeast London, denied arson and manslaughter.

CORRECTIONS

In our report yesterday of Mr Irving Scholar's successful libel action we said that Mr Scholar had authorised the sale of the footballer Paul Gascoigne to the Italian club Lazio. Mr Scholar has asked us to point out that he did not authorise this sale and was opposed to it throughout his time at Tottenham Hotspur football club.

Global Biodiversity, the new encyclopaedia of the earth's living organisms, is published by Chapman and Hall, and not, as reported yesterday, by the compilers, the World Conservation Monitoring Centre.

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Minesweeper stands by after Cornish fishermen accuse French crews of sabotage off the Scillies

Skipper says he will sail again despite risk of trouble

BY LIN JENKINS

THE skipper of one of the fishing boats involved in a violent clash with French trawlers resolved yesterday to retrieve his damaged equipment despite the risk of another confrontation.

Andrew Stephens, captain of the 36ft *Britannia IV*, took stock in the shelter of Newlyn harbour, Cornwall, repaired damage from Wednesday evening's incident, and prepared to sail again today. The boat, with two others, had been fishing in the waters ten miles north of the Isles of Scilly for three days without seeing another vessel. When the two French 100ft steel trawlers appeared, they feared trouble, but were shocked when the French ran through their nets.

"Some boats have a bit of a reputation. As usual we told them the position of our nets, but once they had it they blatantly ignored it. We even put our boat right under the bow of his but he would have run us over if we had not moved," Mr Stephens said. The crew were all too aware that the French trawler, nearly three times the length of their wooden boat, would have sunk them. His brother Luke, co-owner of the boat, is in no doubt that it was deliberate sabotage. "It has happened before, but not to that extent. Normally they just go for our gear, but this time it was nastier."

The French stern-trawlers appeared at 5pm on Wednesday fishing for a different catch to the British tangle-netters, which employ a different technique (see illustration). All pleas from the *Britannia IV*, the *Sardia Louise* and *St Ury* were ignored. When they went alongside, the French crews threatened to ram them. The crew of the *St Ury* was forced to take cover in the wheelhouse when metal chains and rods showed over the deck, causing considerable damage. All three boats fled and alerted the Falmouth coastguard.

The Royal Navy minesweeper HMS *Broom*, assigned to the fisheries protection fleet, arrived to prevent further trouble. Fish-

THE CLASH

ermen are convinced that the French will not try anything while the vessel is in the area. Danny Phillips, captain of the *Sardia Louise*, said: "They deliberately destroyed our nets. When we confronted them they were threatening us with all sorts of things. The chains thrown on to one boat show the sort of mood they were in."

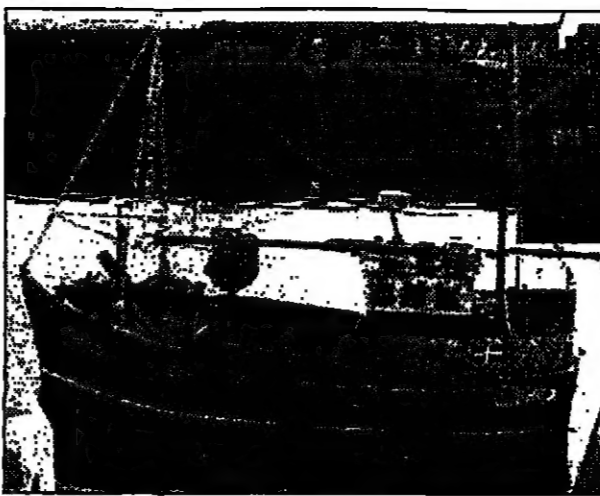
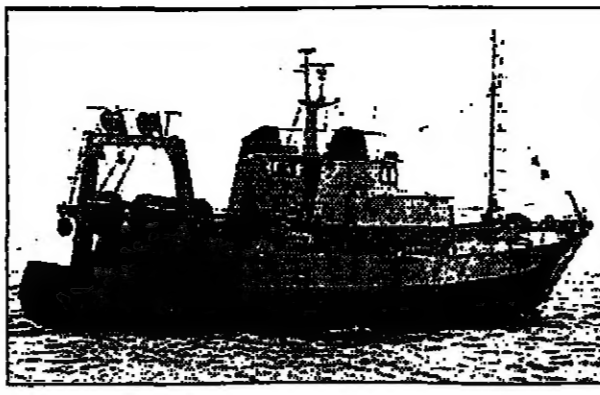
None of the fishermen could think of a reason for the incident. The Cornish boats, fishing for monkfish and turbot, had set their nets in lines on the seabed two or three days earlier. After three days, they would have expected to lift about 3½ tonnes of fish, which would be sold at Newlyn fish market.

The French use a different method, trawling their nets behind the vessel fishing for cod and hake. Simon Cowen, 29, the third crew member on *Britannia IV*, said: "In the ground we were on there was not a lot of fish for them. We were after different things and if we had planned it together we could have both fished. This sort of thing has happened before, but usually we manage to get our nets out of the way in time."

Tackle worth £2,000 was lost. Richard Banks, chief executive of the National Federation of Fishermen's Organisations, estimated that such disputes had cost the British fishing industry £500,000 in the past five years.

Talks between the two countries and the Irish Republic had established a working relationship centred on the rotation of fishing areas. The system had broken down because a few French vessels refused to obey the rules, he said. Mike Townsend, of the Cornish Fisheries Association, said the government had been aware for some time of the behaviour of the company-owned French trawlers. "They are always going through the nets. It's time the government did something about it."

Peter Millar, page 18



Net loss: Andrew Stephens and Danny Phillips, skippers of two British boats, right; the French trawler *Larche*, above left; and the *Britannia IV* back at Newlyn



Townfolk name two boats

FROM SEAN MAC CARTHAIGH IN PARIS

NONE of the French fishermen allegedly involved in the incident could be found in the small town of Concarneau yesterday, but locals insisted that only two trawlers, not three as originally reported, played a part in the dispute. These were said to be *L'Arche*, a relatively new,

FRENCH VIEW

small vessel which is skippered by its owner, and the older 110ft *La Rhapsodie*, with a crew of 12.

The local fishermen said that they believed this was the first time English and French trawlers fishing for the same catch had clashed violently, but added that there was resentment among trawlers because at least one of the Cornwall-registered boats fished by day and left nets in the water by night.

In the past, there has been conflict between Spanish fishermen over their use of nets up to 30 kilometres long and their French counterparts. There have also been clashes between Frenchmen from different ports when cables holding nets have been cut.

Privatisation looms over Nelson's nursery

BY MICHAEL EVANS DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE Royal Navy's fishery protection squadron, which was guarding British trawlers yesterday from further attacks by rival French boats, has been in operation for more than six centuries and ranks Horatio Nelson among its former captains. But its future is in doubt because of proposals by the

Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food to privatise fishery protection.

The ministry pays the navy more than £6 million a year for the 12-boat squadron's work, covering about 40 per cent of its operating costs. The privatisation proposal, being studied by the Cabinet Office, is aimed at cutting that cost. The navy is worried that, if privatisation is

FISHERY PROTECTION

approved, the squadron, based in Rosyth, Fife, may have to be scrapped. The squadron employs 420 crew and 150 navy personnel, with many of the navy's junior officers taking their first command on fishery protection vessels.

The navy is adamant that the violent incident between the French and British trawlers underlines the need to maintain armed fishery protection vessels. The United Kingdom fishery limits patrolled by the squadron cover more than 200,000 square miles and extend up to 200 miles from the coast. Within that area lie some

of the richest fishing grounds in the world which attract many foreign fishermen. The squadron is responsible for seeing that only vessels from countries which have agreements with Britain fish inside the area. At any one time, there may be more than 600 vessels, British and foreign, fishing within the limits. The navy stopped 137 last year for illegal activities.

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Verdict given on stolen vessel

Identification procedures were called for by the court which returned open verdicts on the two men who were charged with the theft of the 40-tonne *Ocean Hawk* from a boatyard in Brixham, Devon, in 1989. The court found the two men guilty of the theft of the boat, but the charges of conspiracy to defraud failed. The judge, Mr Justice Gault, said the evidence was not strong enough to prove the men had planned to defraud the boatyard.

faces questions

The court heard that the two men, who were charged with the theft of the boat, had been seen at the boatyard on the night of the theft. The judge said the evidence was not strong enough to prove the men had planned to defraud the boatyard.

for heart victims

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C4 chief named

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Fishermen grow ruthless as catches diminish

BY MICHAEL HORNSEY AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

SKIRMISHES between British and French fishing vessels off the south and southwest coasts of England occur quite often and reflect growing competition for depleted fish stocks. The most frequent clashes are between boats of different size using different types of net to catch the same type of fish.

The latest incident, some 16 miles northwest of the Isles of Scilly, appears to be the most violent so far. French steel-hulled trawlers more than 100ft long, which drag big conical nets along the seabed, deliberately cut through and destroyed the fixed-position tangle nets being used by three smaller English vessels.

The tangle nets, which are about half a mile long and up to 5ft high, are anchored to the seabed. The position of

BATTLEGROUND

the nets, which are hauled in every four days or so, is marked on the surface by buoys. Each small wooden boat, no more than 35ft long, can carry up to 20 such nets, which are usually set parallel to each other about 200 yards apart.

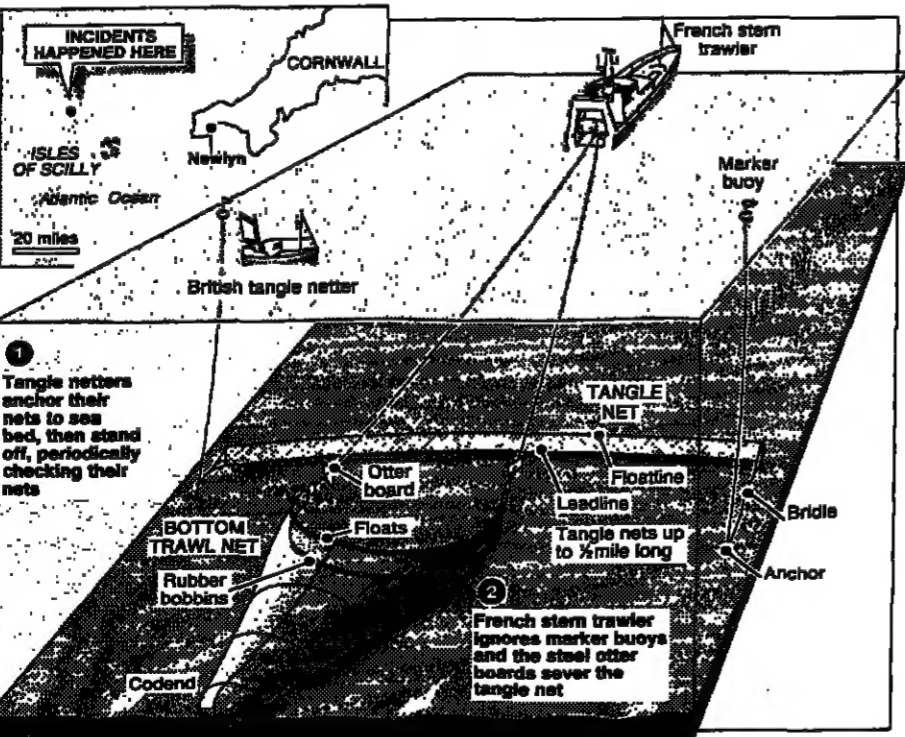
Mike Townsend, chief executive of the Cornish Fish Producers' Organisation, in Newlyn, Cornwall, said yesterday: "Our relations with most French fishing vessels are good, but there are a few rogue skippers who will not abide by the understandings we have reached and behave in an aggressive way."

About a year ago French and British fishing organisations set up a radio frequency so that skippers could tell each other when and where they were fishing and the kind of gear they were using. Earlier this month representatives of the

Grimsby-based National Federation of Fishermen's Organisations met their French counterparts in Concarneau, Brittany, and agreed in principle to set up separate zones for trawling and tangle netting.

Richard Banks, the federation's chief executive, said: "We made good progress but did not resolve all the details. While waiting for the zones to be agreed, our fishermen have been making efforts to set their nets in a way that there is room for French trawlers to sail between. The trouble does seem to be caused by a small minority of French skippers."

The French have been fishing in British waters for centuries. This did not matter when fish supply was abundant, but dwindling stocks and the European Community's complicated system of national catch quotas have intensified competition. Quota enforcement is largely left to national governments.





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Judges to re on Sun

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Gorbals polishes its image

to the very need and which requires immediate action. Criminals and lawless sitting through recent riots, is about to receive a \$40 million assistance to transform it.

Chiefphase The Crown Prince was launched on a journey promising a review of the reforms provided for new homes, a street map and housing for students. Mike Goleto, the public director, is in the past, people wanted to use the money because they felt it was stolen. But we are looking forward to the money. Why don't you think the money is not being worked since it has been pulled back out of the budget?

Meanwhile, had that earlier talks had that more with local people they would be no more than fluff.

Here and during the second world war, the Gorbals was famous for its tenements, its poverty and crime. After the war, the attempts were made to house the victims, largely by building new housing on top of the old. The Gorbals streets were bulldozed a mile was for Algerians, another flat owned blacks quickly became as notorious as the tenements they replaced. They were demolished in the early eighties.

Local retain a certain nostalgia. Yesterday's phase has been nicknamed "Seven heavens" since six previous attempts to do up the area have failed.

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Each week throughout the summer, *The Times* and *ITC* will bring you news of last minute bargains available for travellers at France. The latest information on bookings, flights, traffic delays and holiday ideas.

OFFERS

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هكزامن الاصل

Judges free councils to resume attack on Sunday trading

By FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

LOCAL authorities are expected to prepare more court actions to halt the Sunday trading free-for-all after the House of Lords yesterday restored their powers to act without risking millions of chargepayers' money.

In a ruling greeted with dismay by big stores and small traders alike, the law lords overturned a Court of Appeal decision that councils were not entitled to injunctions banning Sunday opening unless they pledged to compensate traders for lost profits if, ultimately, Sunday trading laws are deemed invalid under European law.

The ruling gives the councils power to return to their attack on Sunday trading after nine months in which stores have been opening freely. However, they are likely to delay court action until the even more crucial legal opinion expected on July 8 from the Advocate General to the European Court of Justice on the legality of Sunday trading restrictions.

In their judgment yesterday, the law lords delivered a warning shot to the govern-

ment about that ruling. Lord Goff of Chieveley indicated that the government might be liable for damages claimed by stores (which could run to millions of pounds) for lost profits if the European Court does rule the Sunday trading laws invalid.

Tim Stevenson, solicitor for Wickes, which lost yesterday's case, said: "The company is very disappointed." But it took heart, he added, from "one of the implications of the judgment that the government may be liable to pay damages if the European Court rules in our favour. We have to ask now what provision the government intends to make."

However, the ruling was hailed by the Keep Sunday Special Campaign as "the turn of the tide". David Blackmore, operations director, said: "No longer can a minority of large companies hold local authorities to ransom and load the scales of justice in their favour. Local authorities should make a start now on preparing cases to enforce the law in anticipation of the expected European

Court of Justice decision to uphold the Sunday trading law."

Five law lords unanimously allowed a test case appeal by Kirklees Borough Council, West Yorkshire, against the Court of Appeal decision in April 1991 that rendered virtually unenforceable the restrictions under the Shops Act 1960, which limit what can be sold on Sundays.

The solicitor for Kirklees, Roger Butterfield, was asked what the council's next move would be regarding other Sunday traders. "We will sue," he said.

Before the April ruling, local councils obtained hundreds of High Court injunctions to enforce Sunday closing on DIY stores and other big chains. However, the ruling put a stop to the seeking of injunctions as councils were unwilling to risk millions of pounds in chargepayers' money.

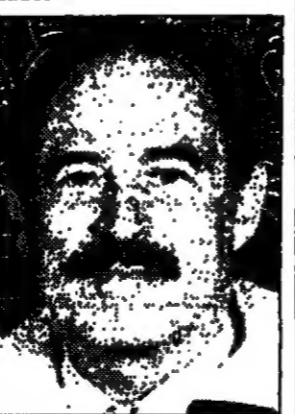
Yesterday, councils were indicating they would seek again to ensure compliance with the law. In the meantime though, the European Court on July 8, in a case between Stoke-on-Trent and Norwich City Councils and the DIY chain B&Q, will indicate whether the Shops Act is invalid under EC law. That opinion then goes to the European Court for a final ruling.

Views on the impact of yesterday's ruling on small shopkeepers, shopworkers and on market traders varied widely. Bernard Tennant, director of the National Chamber of Trade, said the judgment was excellent news for small businesses suffering from illegal superstore competition.

"The retail playing field is now more level. We urgently want action from local authorities to enforce the law to stop our members being driven bankrupt by the illegal activities of the superstores," he added.

The Shopping Hours Reform Council, the leading campaigner for stores trading on Sundays, said that 250,000 shopworkers could be hit in the pocket. "Shoppers and shopworkers will both be badly hit," Roger Boden, its director, said.

The public would also be denied the opportunity to shop on Sundays "despite clear evidence over the past nine months that Sunday shopping is immensely popular with the consumer", he added.



Goff: ruling carried warning to government

Gorbals polishes its image

By KERRY GILL

THE Gorbals, the very mention of which conjures images of dark, criminal-infested alleys cutting through tenement slums, is about to undergo an £80 million attempt to transform it.

The first phase, the Crown Street project, was launched yesterday, promising a rebirth of the Gorbals providing 1,000 new homes, a shopping mall and housing for students. Mike Galloway, the project director, said: "In the past, people were afraid to use the word Gorbals because they felt it had a stigma. But we are becoming more comfortable with the name. Why don't we tweak the image to one of an honest, working class area which has pulled itself up by its boot straps?"

Mr Galloway said that extensive talks had taken place with local people. There would be no more high rise flats. Before and during the second world war, the Gorbals was infamous for its tenement slums, its poverty and its crime. After the war, brave attempts were made to rehouse its citizens, largely in multi-storey housing on the city perimeter. The Gorbals' streets were bulldozed to make way for Algerian-designed, flat-roofed blocks that quickly became as notorious as the tenements they replaced. They were demolished in the early eighties.

Locals retain a certain scepticism. Yesterday's phase has been nicknamed "Seven heavens" since six previous attempts to do up the area have failed.

Hosepipe ban is extended

By TIM JONES

FURTHER water restrictions were imposed on more than two million users yesterday and the National Rivers Authority announced plans to spend £2 billion over the next four years on safeguarding and improving supplies.

Three Valleys Water Services, announcing the latest curbs, said that five years of drought meant that the area, covering an arc from Heathrow through Luton to Stansted, was now the driest in western Europe, apart from Spain. Eight water companies, mainly in the South and East, have hosepipe bans in force, affecting almost seven million people.

From next month, the two-year-old hosepipe and sprinkler bans in the Three Valleys area will be extended to the watering of allotments, parks and sports grounds and the use of mechanical car washes. Jim McGown, managing director, told customers yesterday that there was little hope of any improvement in water levels this summer. "We have tried to be as fair as possible to our customers by adopting a phased approach, but unfortunately the drought is getting worse and we have to take these further steps to safeguard supplies for the remainder of the year."

The National Rivers Authority, announcing its priorities for the next four years, said that it would develop a long-term strategy for dealing with drought. Its £2 billion spending plans cover programmes for conservation, extraction, fisheries, flood prevention, quality control and pollution.



Joy shared: Pauline Rowlinson, a nurse from Thuro, hugs Lisa Whitford, 11, yesterday after taking top prize in the 1992 BT/ChildLine Awards for services to children. The nurse, nominated by Lisa, cares for sick children in Cornwall and looked after Lisa's sister Maria until her death from cancer, aged 11

Male job seekers complain of sex bias

By RICHARD FORD
HOME CORRESPONDENT

GROWING numbers of men are alleging sex discrimination as they apply for jobs in areas traditionally dominated by women.

The majority of complaints concern recruitment practices, with allegations that companies are unwilling to hire men to work with word processors or as secretaries and machinists. Nursing homes are accused of being unwilling to hire male nurses and care assistants.

Thirty per cent of complaints about recruitment practices received by the Equal Opportunities Commission last year were from men. Carole Foster, of the commission, said yesterday: "Some companies find it very difficult and embarrassing to employ a man in a role that has usually been carried out by a woman. It seems they don't know how to treat a man sitting at a word processor."

However, the majority of allegations about discrimination, harassment and equal pay are from women, who face lengthy delays before their cases are dealt with by industrial tribunals. According to the commission and to a Labour research department survey, the average waiting time is more than two years. The department's survey, published today, shows that, in claims for equal pay for work of equal value, women wait more than three years and have little success.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Stowaway hid for eight days

An Ethiopian stowaway was in police custody at Newport, Isle of Wight, last night after being found on a ferry from Tasmania shortly before it arrived at Cowes. Metiku Assela, 17, had spent eight days hiding on the Hover-speed Sea Cal, Tasmania, which is to be fined out on the island.

Immigration and Customs officials were called after Metiku was discovered and led by crewmen. He told police that he had stowed away because he had no job, no money and "too many problems". An official from the Ethiopian Embassy in London is expected to take him back to Ethiopia.

Soccer arrests

Eight football supporters have been arrested by police investigating clashes at a second division game last month between Newcastle United and Leicester City in which 40 people were injured. The arrests were made at homes in Newcastle, Gateshead and Whitley Bay. Thirty-three fans were arrested during the game.

SAS death

The defence ministry is investigating the death of an SAS soldier during a live firing exercise in Belize. Lance Cpl Mark Richards, from Cwm, is believed to have died when his weapon went off accidentally. He was with R Squadron, a TA unit permanently attached to 22 SAS.

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STOP PRESS FRANCE - WITH THE TIMES AND LBC

Last Minute Booking Bargains

Each week throughout the summer, The Times and LBC will bring you news of last minute bargains available for travellers to France. The latest information on bookings, flights, traffic delays and holiday ideas.

□ Traffic jams around Paris will be eased next week when the new A26 motorway, bypassing the capital and providing non-stop motorway from the Channel to the Mediterranean, is completed. The AA says that congestion over the weekend is expected on routes around Paris, Toulouse, Lyon and Bordeaux. French farmers are continuing to block roads in some large towns and cities.

□ Cosmos has short breaks to EuroDisney departing this weekend. For £166 per person it is offering return travel by coach, three nights in a two star hotel, and a two-day EuroDisney entrance ticket. Cosmos is also offering a seven-night coach tour of Normandy, chateaux country and Paris for £274 per person including accommodation, breakfast and four dinners.

THE TIMES
PASSPORT TO
France

LBC NEWS TALK 97.3

departing tomorrow. Thomas Cook has a three-day break by air with Air Tours for £79 including three star accommodation in Paris, departing from Birmingham today.

ty of seats on all its flights to France.

□ Sally Ferries has space on most of its sailings between Ramsgate and Dunkirk over the next week. Brittany Ferries has plenty of availability on day time sailings from Portsmouth to Caen, Poole to Cherbourg and Plymouth to Roscoff, but early morning services between Portsmouth and St Malo are heavily booked over the weekend. There is only limited cabin space available on late night sailings on all Brittany Ferries routes. Hoverspeed still has car and foot passenger space on Seacar sailings from Dover over the weekend.

□ Sterling has remained stable against the franc, according to Travellex, with exchange rates between 9.43 and 9.46 when buying and 10.33 and 10.36 when selling.

□ Robin Young, the Times journalist, will be interviewed by Angela Rippon on LBC NEWS TALK'S Drivetime programme next Thursday, July 2, at 6.50pm.

Passport to France, L&T section, page 4

HONDA PRESENT THE BEST DEALS YOU'LL SEE ALL SUMMER: THEIR CARS.

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Honda bodywork.

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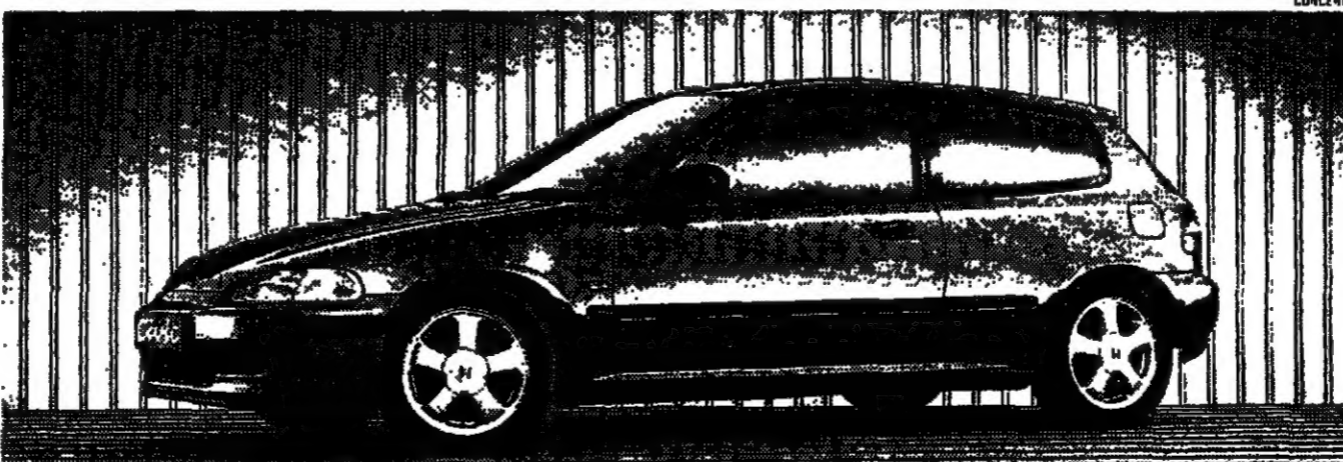
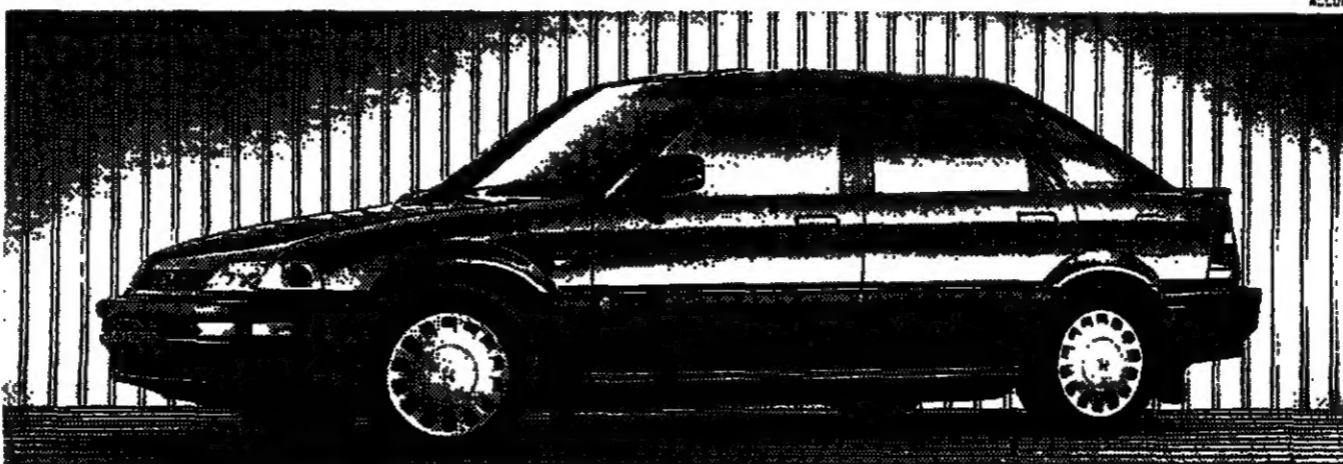
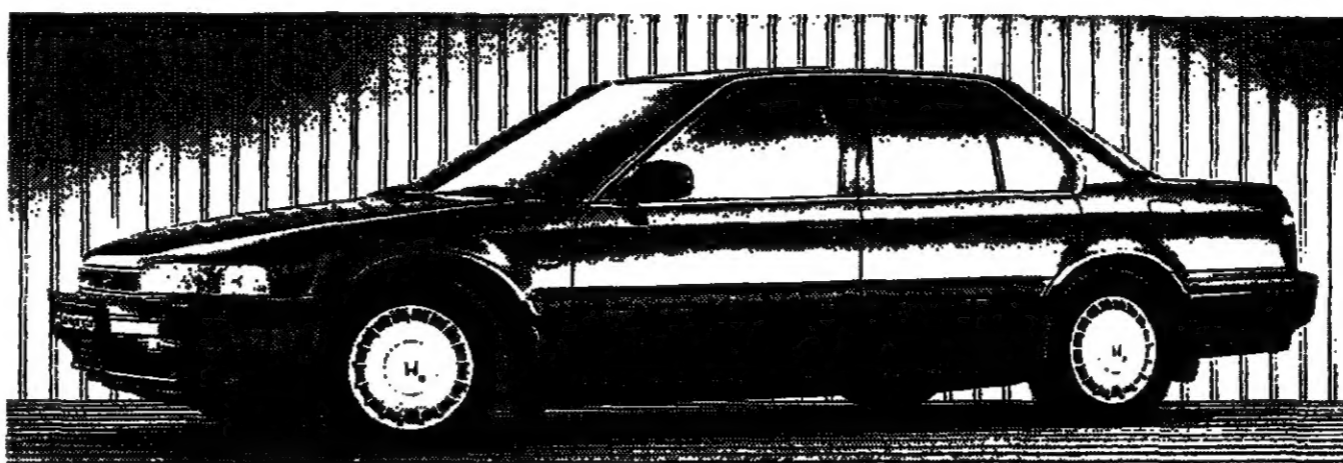
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Major threatens legal action despite 'negotiating triumph'

48-hour week 'not settled'

FROM GEORGE BROCK IN LISBON AND SHEILA GUNN

THE government is still prepared to mount a legal challenge to the EC directive setting a 48-hour maximum working week, John Major said yesterday, in spite of hailing the compromise deal as a "negotiating triumph" for the employment secretary, Gillian Shephard.

The prime minister earned the cheers of Euro-spectator MPs at Commons question time by saying that the issue had not been finally settled. Mrs Shephard, he said, had achieved an outcome which met all of Britain's most crucial objectives. "She has preserved the flexibility which employers and employees in the UK enjoy, and which is one of our greatest assets. However... this directive is still not agreed in the EC, and may not be agreed in the EC. It is still our case, irrespective of the negotiating triumph by Mrs Shephard yesterday, that the treaty base under which this has been brought forward is wrong, and if the treaty is passed we may still challenge it in the European Court."

The meeting of EC employment ministers, which had

been billed as the decisive battle in the two-year struggle over limiting the working week to 48 hours, dribbled to an inconclusive halt close to midnight on Wednesday. Mrs Shephard's brisk assertion that Britain had "won", however, is in dispute.

Instead of Britain's objections to a mandatory 48-hour limit on the working week taking centre stage, a Franco-German quarrel stalled a deal. A compromise which met several of Britain's loudest objections was agreed in principle but has not been nailed down. Mrs Shephard was in a good position to emphasise the changes which suited her, underline that the law could not even be finalised until December at the earliest, and distract attention from the concessions which Britain had made. On a tactical level, Mrs Shephard's claim of victory is fair. Where her mixture of obstinacy and compromise has left the government's strategy on EC social law is another matter.

The version of the draft directive on working hours which the Portuguese govern-

ment presented to the ministers on Wednesday morning had been watered down with Britain's concerns in mind. German agreement would have been required for a majority vote to pass the directive, and the Germans insisted that such a controversial set of changes should be unanimously agreed.

The Portuguese chairman offered Britain three changes. Any state can choose to apply the "voluntary principle" that any worker can work more than 48 hours by choice. The overtime done by Britain's 2.5 million workers who work weeks of longer than 48 hours would have to be listed by their employers, with the lists open to inspection by the Health and Safety Executive. The exemption would last at least until the year 2002, when it would be reviewed.

Earlier versions of the directive had stipulated that Sunday should "in principle" be the day of rest. The latest wording does not specify any day by name. Lastly, the text was altered to allow local agreements between employers and unions to bypass the 48-hour limit. France had

wanted such deals restricted to national agreements.

Wednesday's negotiations made clear that Britain will now accept these concessions and the rest of the directive. "I made no concession," Mrs Shephard said afterwards — an assertion which was technically correct but misleading. Although all the visible movement on Wednesday was in Britain's direction, the day's haggling also established for the first time that the government will now swallow an unprecedented quantity of EC rule-making in labour practice.

If the directive is finally passed, four big changes will go on to the statute book: ☐ Workers must be guaranteed a minimum daily rest period of 11 consecutive hours.

☐ A weekly rest period must be no less than 35 consecutive hours.

☐ Every worker will be entitled to four weeks' paid holiday.

☐ Night work cannot last longer than eight hours in any 24-hour period.

British vision, page 13



Taylor: "We are storing up problems for the future"

UK failed to take lead at Rio MPs told

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY

THE government was accused yesterday of hiding behind other countries on critical environmental protection issues, despite its efforts at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro.

Ann Taylor, Labour's environment spokesman, said that although the government had avoided the "totally unacceptable" policy of taking action only in line with other nations, it had not taken the lead that developing countries required.

Britain could set itself targets of "best practice" by pushing domestic activities to the limit, which would lead poorer countries and make a significant impression on global and environmental problems, she said.

During a debate on the summit, Mrs Taylor said: "The government only look at costs of their programme and never look at the costs of inaction. This is a very significant failing and the result is that we are storing up problems for the future."

She complained of the "staggering fact" that, despite reduced production during the recession, Britain had increased emissions of greenhouse gases. She pressed the government to adopt a short-term timetable, laying down stricter energy conservation rules for industry, allowing local authorities to use capital receipts to provide home insulation and doing more to protect sites of special scientific interest. "We have got to have action that actually matches the scale of the problems we are facing."

Although generally welcoming the summit's "step forward" and the government's contribution, there was particular disappointment that more had not been achieved in reaching a binding agreement on forests.

Michael Howard, the environment secretary, noted the lack of agreement on forests as "one disappointment" among the "undoubted successes" of Rio. However, this inability to reach agreement did not reflect any lack of effort but rather the need to draw up proposals with some degree of flexibility to meet the concerns of all states, he said.

"Rio began an evolutionary process. We are committed to sustaining the momentum of that process."

Britain would be pressing for EC and the leading industrialised countries to follow up with further discussions at this weekend's EC summit in Lisbon and the forthcoming Munich summit.



Dentists 'refuse' NHS work

John Major found himself dragged into the dentists' dispute when Clive Betts, Labour MP for Sheffield Attercliffe, claimed that dentists in the prime minister's constituency of Huntingdon were refusing to treat National Health Service patients, including children, because of government-imposed cuts.

The prime minister admitted that there was a shortage of dentists in Huntingdon because of the rapid rise in the population. However, a recruitment campaign was starting in September and powers existed for any local family health service authority to recruit salaried dentists where needed. Anyone having trouble finding a dentist should go to their family health service authority, he said.

Homes saved

The package of measures agreed between the government and the mortgage lenders last December has saved 55,000 repossessions this year, Sir George Young, the housing minister, said in a written reply.

Pensions safe

Rail workers' pensions will be safeguarded after the privatisation of BR, Roger Freeman, the public transport minister, made clear in a written reply. Detailed discussions with BR and their pension advisers have begun.

Tube jobs

Thousands of jobs will be created by the construction of the Jubilee Underground line extension to Docklands in east London, Steve Norris, London's transport minister, said. About 4,000 people will be employed on site with another 20,000 in off-site manufacturing and supply.

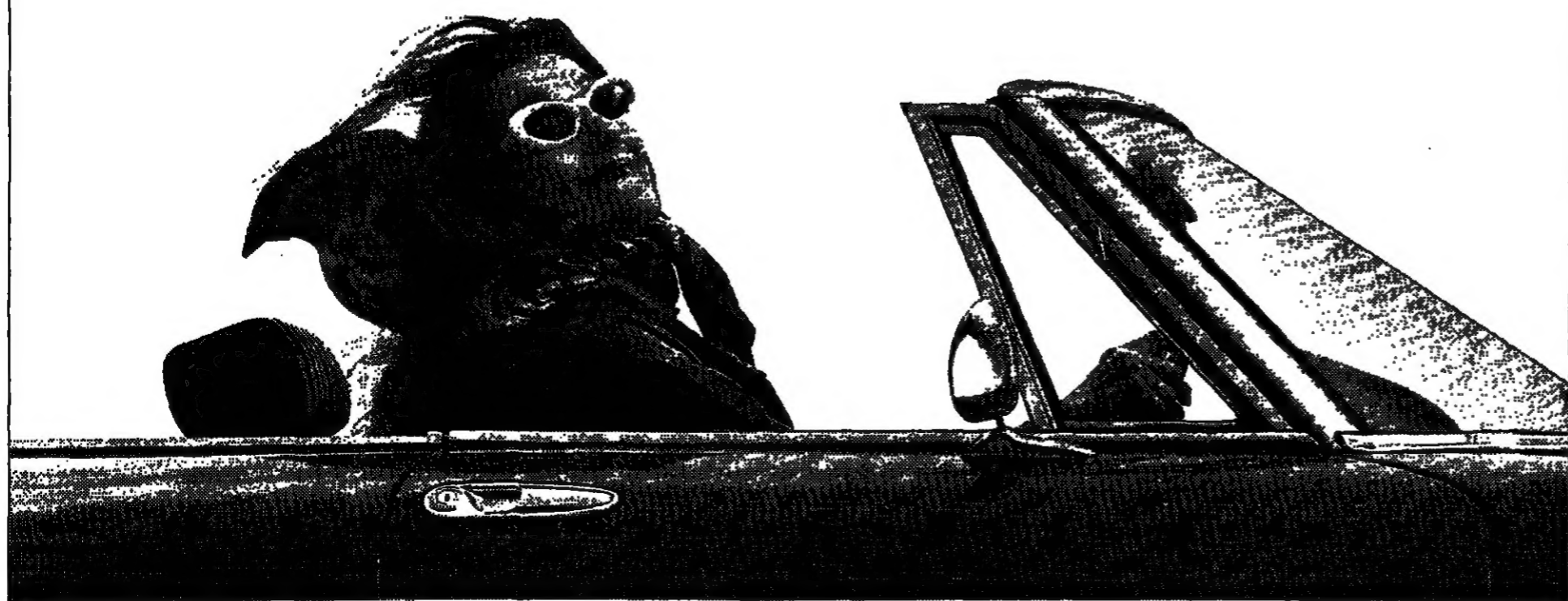
School rules

The transport department has produced a new leaflet for school governors on the development of road safety policies in schools. Kenneth Clarke, roads and traffic minister, said in a written reply.

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Debate on the countryside.

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Britain's caring diplomats praised

BY SHEILA GUNN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

BRITONS in distress abroad have praised the service they received from British diplomats. A glowing report from the National Audit Office, the public spending watchdog, tells of cases where Embassy staff and honorary consuls went to great lengths to help visitors in trouble.

"On visits to overseas posts, the NAO found much evidence of the commitment, ingenuity and professional skills of consular staff when dealing with Britons who

have suffered some misfortune. There were many instances where staff had provided service of the highest quality," the report said.

In one case last year, a consular officer with his wife and an armed police escort travelled 240 miles through battle-torn territory to rescue a woman held against her will and about to be forced into an arranged marriage. "The trip was uncomfortable and dangerous but the outcome was successful."

In another case, in 1990, diplomats went to great lengths to comfort the relatives of a British climber found dead in a remote area, providing an interpreter for the family and handling all the arrangements including the repatriation of the body.

However, reports varied of diplomatic help for about 2,300 Britons held in foreign prisons, often in bad conditions. In one visit, the audit office was impressed with the consul's efforts for a prisoner. But in another, it complained that the consul, who did not speak very good English, spent only ten minutes with the prisoner and made little attempt to identify his problems.

Issuing passports was the main task with a wide difference in waiting times in the overseas posts. In Lagos, applicants waited an average of three months, while in Madrid they waited an average of two working days.

A questionnaire to British people visiting 25 overseas posts found a high level of satisfaction, although some queried the convenience of the location, opening hours and privacy.

National Audit Office report — service to the public: Foreign and Commonwealth Office consular services (Stationery Office £7.25)

The week in Parliament

The main business in the House of Commons next week is expected to be:

Monday: British Coal and British Rail (Transfer Proposals) bill, remaining stages.

Tuesday: Boundary Commissions bill, remaining stages. Motion on setting up select committees.

Wednesday: Community Care (Residential Accommodation) bill, remaining stages.

Thursday: Debate on programme for UK presidency of the EC.

Friday: Debate on private member's motion on the education of people with special needs.

The main business in the House of Lords is expected to be:

Monday: Education (Amendment) bill, committee. Motions on countering drug trafficking.

Tuesday: Judicial Pensions and Retirement bill, committee.

Wednesday: Debate on the privatised utilities.

Thursday: Northern Ireland order on continuation of direct rule.

SHAR OFFER

M25 relief scheme to cost £144 million

By MICHAEL DYNES, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

CAPACITY on the M25, London's orbital motorway, will be increased from eight to 14 lanes between the intersections with the M4 and the M3, John MacGregor, the transport secretary, announced yesterday.

The £144 million scheme, which envisages the construction of a three-lane carriage-way with a hard shoulder on either side of the M25, will require 187 hectares of additional land, 125 hectares of which will be landscaped. The scheme includes the demolition of an estimated 24 residential and eight commercial properties.

Increasing the capacity of the seven-mile section of motorway between the M4 to the West Country and the M3 to Southampton is needed to cater for existing and future levels of traffic, which had already reached 200,000 vehicles a day between junctions 13 and 14, Mr

MacGregor said. The M25's new parallel relief roads or link roads will cater for local traffic, reducing the need for "function hopping" between intersections, and thereby freeing up the motorway for long-distance traffic.

Mr MacGregor said that the decision to increase the capacity of the M25 applied only to the section between the M4 and the M3, which is now "the busiest section of motorway in the country". Mr MacGregor refused, however, to rule out further increases in capacity elsewhere on the motorway.

Environmental groups fear that the M4-M3 scheme, which will create the biggest motorway system outside North America, is the first in a series which will ultimately transform the M25 into a 14-lane highway for most or all of its 117-mile length.

In an effort to minimise the environmental impact of the

scheme, the transport department is planning to plant 300,000 trees and 400,000 shrubs alongside the M25's new link roads. Mr MacGregor said. "All those affected would be fully consulted and their comments considered in the further design work," he added.

Dismissing claims that the provision of new roads undermines Britain's international commitment to reduce emissions of carbon dioxide, Mr MacGregor insisted that reduced traffic congestion would lead to a reduction in emissions. A full environmental impact assessment would be carried out on the scheme, he added.

The Freight Transport Association, the organisation representing the interests of 13,000 freight operators, said the M25 expansion plan was "good news for industry, not just in the South East but nationwide, as well as for the environment".

John Guttridge, the association's South Eastern regional director, said: "The M25, as well as its vitally important role as London's bypass, is also a key local route." Providing increased capacity would relieve traffic problems on one of the busiest sections by separating local and through traffic. It would also bring environmental benefit in ensuring that traffic stays on the motorway rather than diverting to less suitable general purpose roads to avoid congestion, he said.

Environmental organisations, however, reacted bitterly to Mr MacGregor's announcement. Penny Evans, the assistant secretary of the Council for the Protection of Rural England, said: "Widening the M25 can only fuel a never-ending spiral of traffic growth and provides no effective strategic solution to traffic congestion in the South East."

She said transport officials continued to disregard the advice of planners, transport academics and environmentalists in failing to properly consider alternative solutions to traffic problems around London.



Wheeled out for the occasion: the Conservative MPs Gary Waller, left, and Harry Greenway, astride vintage bicycles, get a shove in the right direction as the Scout Association launches its fundraising "Cyclathon" in Westminster yesterday

Capping condemned as attack on democracy

By DOUGLAS BROOM, LOCAL GOVERNMENT CORRESPONDENT

POLL tax capping has allowed the government to usurp the rights of ordinary people to decide for themselves how their communities should be run, claims Bryan Gould, the shadow environment secretary.

Speaking yesterday at the annual conference of the Association of District Councils in Scarborough, Mr Gould said ministers were intent on extinguishing local democracy and replacing it with local administration. The future for local government was bleak, with central government bent on extending the centralisation of power in Westminster and Whitehall.

Capping, which had been introduced to curb the excesses of "a handful of irresponsible over-spenders", had now become universal, with councils setting their budgets

at levels prescribed by ministers to avoid being charge capped, Mr Gould said. "The system now means that every council's spending and tax rates are effectively set in Whitehall."

"The cap will be tightened each year, and before long every council will be spending at government target level and no more. Nothing could be more calculated to extinguish what remains of local government independence."

Mr Gould attacked the policy of replacing central grants to councils with one-off payments made on the basis of competitive bidding by local authorities.

"Local councils no longer decide what is best for their area but what is most likely to tickle the ideological fancy of ministers holding the purse strings," Mr Gould said.

Whip blamed for Labour 'drift'

By ROBIN OAKLEY, POLITICAL EDITOR

LABOUR'S weak performance so far in opposition was criticised yesterday by a former close aide to Neil Kinnock who is campaigning to become the party's chief whip.

John Evans, the Labour MP for St Helens North, complained of a lack of concerted effort by the shadow cabinet and the Labour whips office and accused Derek Foster, the present chief whip, of allowing the party to drift during the Labour leadership contest.

Mr Evans, currently chairman of Labour's national executive and himself a former chief whip, said that with Mr Kinnock and Roy Hattersley departing as leader and deputy leader, "new members have felt that no-one was in overall control. The chief

whip should have taken a major role".

By implication, Mr Evans's campaign manifesto accuses his rival for the £48,000 a year post, one of the few paid positions in Opposition, of failing to ensure that Labour provides properly briefed speakers for Commons debates and of failing to communicate properly with shadow spokesmen.

He insists: "A proper two-way system of communication between the shadow cabinet and the backbenchers via the whips office must be opened up. Members should know where they stand and the criteria by which decisions are made. I will end the nudge and wink mentality in whipping".

Mr Evans also hints that there is dissatisfaction with

the present team of whips over how offices are allocated and nominations made for Commons committees. His manifesto says: "The whips office must be based on openness and fairness with all members, whether in allocation of accommodation, the choice of select committee members or anything else."

He calls for "the sense of drift to be ended and the PLP transformed into an efficient fighting force", and urges that Labour must ensure "an adequate supply of well-briefed backbench speakers on all key issues".

Mr Evans and Mr Foster will have a straight fight for the chief whip's post, with the result due next Thursday. Five MPs will contest the chairmanship of the Parliamentary Labour Party.

Scottish deal ends committee impasse

By SHEILA GUNN

THE five-year dispute over the setting up of a select committee to shadow the work of the Scottish Office was resolved yesterday after the government agreed to allow a Labour MP to be its chairman.

Tony Newton, leader of the Commons, told MPs that the government was clearing the way for the committee of 11 members to be formed. The agreement looks likely to end the impasse between Tory and Labour whips over the rest of the committees, which have not been reconstituted after the general election.

The Scottish affairs committee is expected to consist of six Conservative MPs, three Labour, including the

chairman, one Scottish Nationalist and one Liberal Democrat. The chairman is expected to be William McKelvey, Labour MP for Kilmarnock and Loudon.

The committee was suspended after the 1987 general election when the Conservatives were left with only ten Scottish MPs. Some of the backbenchers, including Bill Walker, Sir Nicholas Fairbairn and Allan Stewart, said they would not serve on a committee, and nearly half the others were ministers.

Donald Dewar, the shadow Scottish secretary, said: "This is an important strengthening of the Westminster system but cannot be a substitute for the radical changes that Labour wants."

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Answers alarm ambulance brigade

Holiday Britons fail basic first aid test

By HARVEY ELLIOTT, TRAVEL CORRESPONDENT

NEARLY half Britain's holidaymakers need medical or first aid attention while away yet many cannot cope with even common ailments, according to a survey by St John Ambulance.

The brigade said it was alarmed by the results of the survey, which asked 2,200 people throughout the country how they would deal with four complaints. Only 62 per cent knew how to treat sunburn, 78 per cent a wasp sting in the mouth, 71 per cent a child with stomach pains, and 69 per cent a cut foot.

"It appears that very little thought is given to safety during our holidays," the brigade said. "Very few people have adequate knowledge to cope with any emergencies that may arise." Three of the questions were (percentage of answers given in brackets):

□ Your ten-year-old boy has been burnt in the sun; his skin is reddened and looks sore. He is hot and irritable

and has minor sunburn. Do you:

a) Send for immediate medical help (11%).

b) Put him in an ice cold bath for one hour or until the pain dies down (6%).

c) Put cold cream or oil over the affected parts (16%).

d) Take him into the shade, sponge him with cold water and give him cold drinks (62%).

e) Don't know (5%).

□ Your spouse has been stung in the back of the mouth by a wasp. Do you:

a) Put an ice pack around their throat, go to a cool place and leave them alone to rest while the pain fades (7%).

b) Use an ice cube or keep rinsing the mouth with cold liquid, check swelling and breathing and go for medical aid (78%).

c) Get them to lie down and raise their feet above the level of their head, check their pulse and if it speeds up give them aspirin and salt in warm water (4%).

d) Rub the affected part with a cut onion until the pain subsides (2%).

e) Don't know (9%).

□ An 18-month-old girl has stomach pains and been sick four times during the last hour, could not keep drink down and also has diarrhoea. Do you:

a) Prepare a mixture of one teaspoon of salt in a cup of warm water and get her to sip it slowly (5%).

b) Cover her with a blanket to keep her warm and sit with her until she is asleep — then get her to the doctor in the morning (15%).

c) Seek immediate medical aid (71%).

d) Grind two junior aspirin and mix with a cupful of warm milk, then get her to sip it slowly (5%).

e) Don't know (4%).

The brigade said that the third of those who would not seek medical advice could have put the girl's life at risk and that in such cases a doctor should always be called.

Ruling heralds suits against tobacco firms



Live now, pay later: campaigners want health warnings on alcohol, similar to those on cigarette packets

People suffering illnesses due to smoking may take legal action after a US decision, writes Bill Frost

BRITISH tobacco companies were bracing themselves yesterday for a rash of lawsuits after the United States Supreme Court ruling that health warnings on cigarette packets did not automatically protect manufacturers from being sued by people suffering illnesses caused by smoking.

Before the judgment, only a handful of cases were pending against British companies. Ash, the anti-smoking pressure group, was yesterday inundated with telephone calls from people seeking more information.

Mark Flannagan, assistant director of Ash, said: "There will be many more [telephone enquiries] and it is just a question of time before a court here will be persuaded by the medical evidence of the last 30 years."

John Dean, from Ballywalter, co. Down, is likely to be the first person to bring his case before a British court. Mr Dean suffers from a circulatory disease and is suing the tobacco company Gallaher, claiming damages for alleged misrepresentation and inadequate warnings of the dangers associated with smoking.

No action has hitherto been brought against a cigarette manufacturer in a British court. Earlier this year, James Dunn, who had both legs amputated after contracting a rare smoking-related circulatory disease, was told his suit for damages against a tobacco company had been ruled out of time.

Mr Dunn said: "I was told 30 years ago that I had Buerger's disease but I didn't know then that cigarettes caused it. Nobody informed me that if I carried on smoking my condition would deteriorate, and that I might lose my legs."

His wife Iris said that they welcomed the US court's decision and hoped smokers here would challenge British tobacco companies. "James has been through so much. He has come to terms with losing his legs but still feels very bitter towards the manufacturers who caused his suffering," she said yesterday.

Mrs Dunn, who used to smoke, added: "When we were young, cigarettes were advertised as something glamorous, something sophisticated. Even when the makers knew the health risks involved, they glossed them over. Smoking is a lethal addiction they have conspired to cover up for 40 years. But my husband and I now know the truth."

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Campaign directs ire at alcohol

SMOKING was once presented by advertisers as a sophisticated habit that enhanced sex appeal and social standing (Bill Frost writes).

A series of medical reports in the 1960s destroyed that image and eventually led to curbs on advertising and to health warnings being carried on all cigarette packets. Now, some public health campaigners want similar restrictions on the marketing of another potentially deadly product — alcohol.

The pressure group Alcohol Concern has urged brewers and distillers to put health labels on bottles and cans. The group said yesterday: "There should be a lot more information. We are campaigning for health warnings that tell people what the medically recommended safe levels of consumption are — 21 units a week for men, 14 for women."

Alcohol Concern denied being paternalistic or patronising towards drinkers, but added: "There is still evidence that far too many people are drinking far too much. It would seem only sensible to make more information available to those who haven't yet got the message that alcohol in excess is a major health hazard."

Giants deny plot to deceive public

After the US court ruling on suits against tobacco firms, campaigners are predicting their downfall, Martin Fletcher writes

WITH billions of dollars at stake, the tobacco industry, its enemies, and legal experts continued to argue furiously yesterday over the implications of Wednesday's Supreme Court ruling that cigarette manufacturers can be sued for misrepresenting the dangers of smoking.

There was only one point of agreement. The court had breached the legal shield with which the industry has fended off hundreds of lawsuits over 25 years without paying a penny in damages. The manufacturers, eager to talk up their share prices, insisted the ruling let them off the hook. Printing health warnings on cigarette packets no longer gave them automatic protection from lawsuits, they conceded, but that did not matter as they had never conspired to deceive the public. David Fishel, senior vice-president of R.J. Reynolds Tobacco, declared: "Anyone who's inclined to sue should have a long conversation with a competent lawyer."

But some anti-smoking advocates, pointing to the lawsuits that bankrupted America's asbestos companies in the 1980s, went so far as to claim that the industry would be destroyed by a flood of successful litigation. Dick Durbin, a Democratic congressman, said the ruling had "knocked the Marlboro man off his horse".

The confusion was reflected in the y-o-y performance of tobacco stocks, which mostly plunged, recovered and then sank back. Several manufacturers arranged hasty conferences for brokers at which analysts pronounced on the ruling, and

the industry's "spin doctors" worked overtime to portray it as a victory.

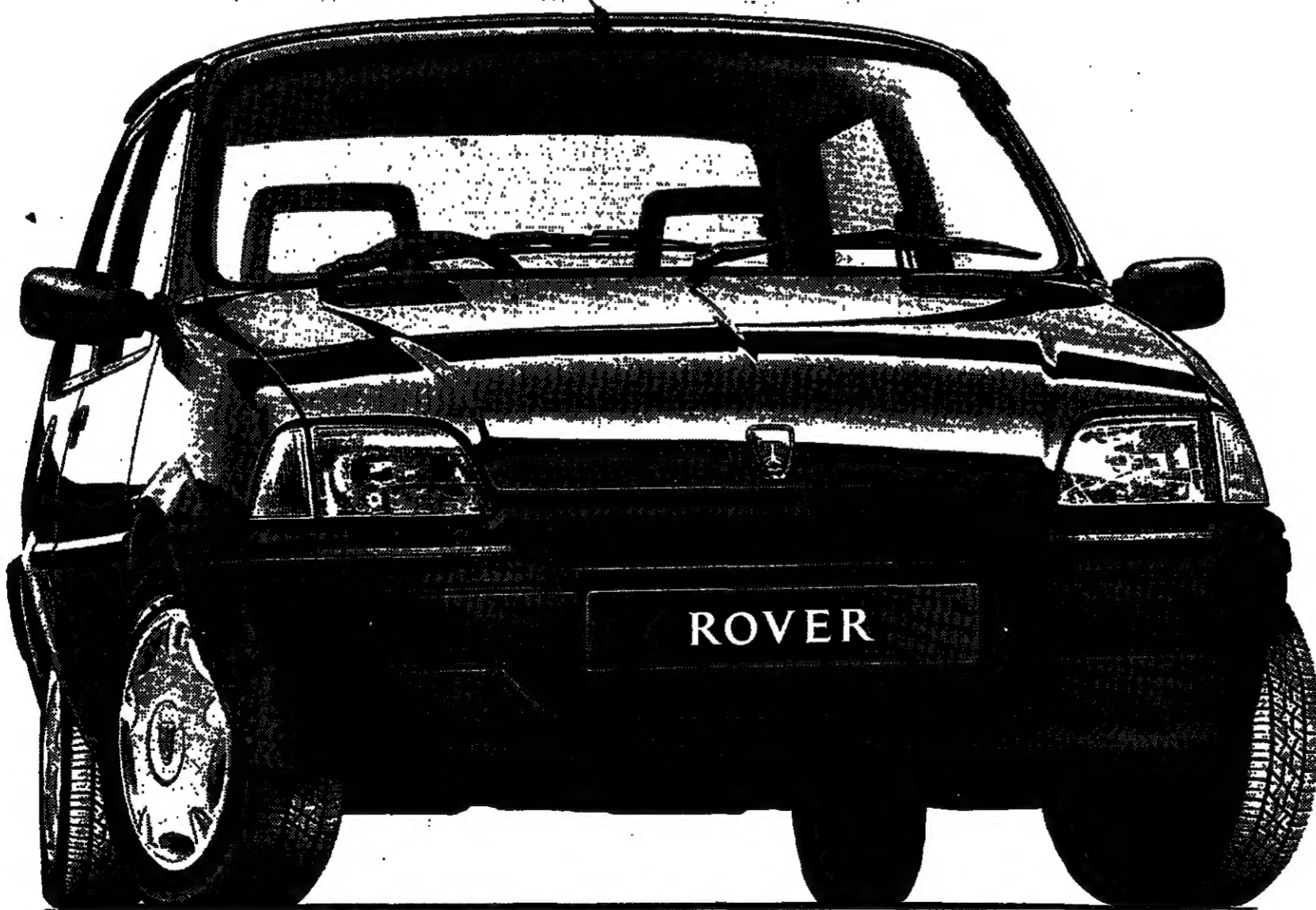
The critical point of the court's decision, anti-smoking organisations contended, was that it gave plaintiffs the power to demand and explore the companies' files for evidence that they had deliberately conspired to downplay the health risks of their products. The industry's enemies believe it has been doing this for decades through advertising and public assertions contradicting its own research. In New York, federal prosecutors have for some months been conducting a criminal investigation into whether the companies used a research organisation which they funded to mislead the public about the risks of smoking.

Matt Myers, a lawyer for the Coalition on Smoking or Health, said the ruling exposed "what truly is the Achilles' heel of the tobacco industry: whether their own research showed that smoking caused diseases and whether they consciously sought to conceal that fact".

Legal experts agreed that proving the industry had lied to the public would not be easy, but if it was done, juries would most probably award punitive damages in the millions of dollars and trigger hundreds, perhaps thousands, of copycat lawsuits.

Fifty million Americans smoke. More than 400,000 a year die of smoking-related diseases. As Laurence Tribe, the law professor who took on the cigarette manufacturers in the Supreme Court, put it: "There is a potentially massive liability on the part of the tobacco industry."

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Community struggles to find its way after Danish trauma



Cavaco Silva: grateful to hand over baton

NEXT Wednesday, Anibal Cavaco Silva, the Portuguese prime minister, will gratefully hand over to John Major the presidency of a European Community that has recovered some but not all of its poise after the shock of Denmark's rejection of the Maastricht treaty. The vote on June 2 has not altered the outward appearance of the packed calendar of councils, concerns and cricket matches that comprise the Danish presidency's formal business, but has entirely changed its true agenda.

Nine national ratification programmes for the Maastricht treaty on political and economic union are still under way. Denmark's is over unless the treaty is amended or reinterpreted and the government in Copenhagen can find a way of consulting voters again. The Irish Republic said "yes" last week. British ratification is blocked for the moment by the underlying resentment against the treaty that surfaced after the Danish vote. The odds must be that the French referendum will support the treaty. Thus, by late autumn, ten national ratifications will probably be ranged against Britain and Denmark.

Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, says that Britain will wait for the French result and for some sign of new moves from the Danes before trying to inch the treaty bill forward in Parliament. He has said, too, that the treaty cannot be renegotiated, and has agreed with his European counterparts that ratifications will go ahead on the present text. But he has also said that the Danes cannot be excluded from the Community or coerced. Even though he will

now enjoy the power of chairmanship and undisputed control of the officials in Brussels and London, these self-imposed conditions will cramp his end-game. Eyes are already fixed on the Edinburgh summit in December. The impasse in the world trade talks may be more important for the future of the international economy, and the completion of the EC's single market laws by the end of the year will involve vital work. But the 12 men gathering in

Lisbon today for the summit that will be chaired by Senhor Cavaco Silva are already thinking about what volatile ratification campaigns will do to the balance of power in the Community. The Maastricht talks last year ended in ambiguous compromise, with Britain winning room for manoeuvre while staying at the heart of the argument. Most EC governments would like to step up the pace of integration that has been slowed by the Maastricht compro-

mises. But most political establishments sense that they are out of step with their voters: they dare not reopen a full reworking of the treaty for fear that the text might be further diluted. For Britain, risks and benefits are finely balanced. If the treaty can be clarified in ways that strengthen the hand of national governments, Denmark's decision can be put to good use. The government is taking a huge risk by denying any possibility of altering the treaty itself and is speculating only about additional declarations on devolving power from Brussels to national capitals.

If such a cosmetic fix is inadequate to shift Danish opinion, the government will have wasted precious time that could have been spent arguing for a more substantial revision of the Maastricht text. By leaving the development of ideas about subsidiarity to Jacques Delors, president of the European Commission, Mr Hurd is granting control of Britain's room for manoeuvre to someone who will not put British interests first. Governments such as France, Luxembourg, Belgium and Italy see an opportunity once again to test Britain's commitment to Europe and push Mr Major to the margins. President Mitterrand of France, anxious and fearful of the rapport between Mr Major and Helmut Kohl, the German chancellor, is the man with most to gain by marginalising Britain.

M Mitterrand has suddenly become a supporter of EC enlargement. He hopes to use the eagerness of Scandinavian governments other than Denmark to sign up to the commitments of Maastricht as warnings to Britain and the Danes that there is no future outside the treaty. The one-and-a-half-day summit agenda will be dominated by the issues of enlargement and subsidiarity. On the first, the leaders are expected to issue a clear commitment for the start of talks on letting Austria, Sweden, Finland and Switzerland into the Community. The issue of subsidiarity, or the devolution of decisions to the lowest practical level, is being pushed as the answer to the Continent-wide rise in resentment of the EC and the secret formula to reverse the Danish rejection. The leaders will ask for the EC Commission to work on applying subsidiarity criteria to all that it does.

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Praise for president is too little, too late

BY ROBIN OAKLEY, POLITICAL EDITOR, AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

BRITAIN became the last European Community member to fall into line yesterday when the cabinet endorsed Jacques Delors as president of the European Commission for a further two years. The government has been paying the penalty with Tory Euro-sceptics for allowing the Commission president to be built up as an ogre determined to introduce "socialism by the back door" in Margaret Thatcher's words. Ministers have tried to spread the word on how co-operative he has been in furthering various British aims within the Community, how chastened by the Danish referendum, and how he has instructed his officials to pay more than lip service to the doctrine of subsidiarity. But it has been too little, too late.

Matters have not been helped by M Delors's EC budget proposals, which are

among the subjects to be discussed at the Lisbon summit, although without much hope of agreement. That may have to wait until the Edinburgh summit in December. Under M Delors, the Commission wants the EC to spend 376 billion euros (£265 billion) in the five years from 1993 to 1997. Annual spending in 1997 would be 83.2 billion euros, a third more than this year. Only the Irish Republic, Greece, Portugal and Spain fully back M Delors' plan, which aims to double the amount of EC cash these four poorest Community states would get in 1997 compared with this year. The Netherlands and Britain take the toughest line against the budget increase, seeing no need for a rise before 1997. They want better use of money and more savings.

Although the government

has now approved it, it has not greeted M Delors's continuation in office with any show of acclaim. Its decision to back him was a tactical one. With Britain taking over the Community presidency next Wednesday, John Major and Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, did not want a lame-duck Commission president without the clout to help them to move things on. Nor did they want an obstructive president who knew that Britain had blackballed his appointment.

Ministers have genuine praise for M Delors' quality and work rate. "Sometimes there are only two people who turn up on time, fully briefed, the British representative and M Delors," a Foreign Office source said. But ministers' admiration stops well short of extending to M Delors' vision for Europe.

There is also the longer game. If M Delors had been blackballed, the Foreign Office believes, the most likely candidates to emerge in his stead would have been Gianni De Michelis, the Italian foreign minister, Felipe Gonzalez, the Spanish prime minister — both socialists likely to back further federalist moves and to push for more money for southern states — and Martin Bangemann, the German commissioner for free market affairs, who is Britain's most implacable opponent in seeking the removal of internal frontier controls throughout the EC.

Any successful candidate from that trio would have been sure to gain a second longer term after the introductory two years, thus ensuring that Britain was stuck with a Commission president it did not want for a minimum of six years. But ministers hope that if M Delors's tenure is for two more years there will be a realistic chance of securing a president for a four-year term who is more to their liking.

No love lost on a hyper-puritan centre

FROM MARTHA DE LA CAL IN LISBON

SECURITY is tight in Lisbon and traffic has been barred around the main hotels where the delegates to the European Community summit beginning today are living. Sharpshooters have been posted at strategic points. The Lisbon that is welcoming the EC leaders looks very different from the city of the late 1970s and early 1980s before Portugal joined the EC. Most of the revolutionary graffiti that covered the walls after the armed forces revolution in 1974 have disappeared. Although ugly shanty towns housing the tens of thousands of poor, many from Portugal's former African territories, continue to

spread, office buildings are going up everywhere, testifying to growing foreign investment and a high growth rate. Everything is ready at the Belem cultural centre on the outskirts of Lisbon, where the summit is being held. This is in contrast to last January, when the centre was just barely completed in time for the beginning of Portugal's presidency, giving rise to fears that the country lacked the organisation and trained personnel to run the presidency.

The building has been criticised by the public, architects, politicians, and even by President Soares because of its location, design and exorbitant cost. Shown on the Tagus in the historic Belem district of the capital, it stands between two of Portugal's most famous monuments, the sixteenth-century Jeronimos Monastery and the Belem Tower. The new building dwarfs the monastery and, some say, blocks the view of it from the river.

But most of the criticism is directed at the building's plain, unadorned architecture, unfavorably with the monastery's elaborate Renaissance carvings. One of Portugal's leading contemporary architects, the neo-modernist Tomas Ta-



Breathing space: the Edward VII park in Lisbon, commemorating his state visit in 1903. Many Portuguese say the city has been spoilt by the new conference centre

veira, president of the school of architecture at Lisbon University, considers the style of the cultural centre too severe. "It is hyper-puritan, unadorned and not very innovative. It is too anonymous. I

am sorry it was not built by an architect with more taste," he said. The Italian architect Vittorio Gregotti and Manuel Salgado, a Portuguese colleague, were chosen from among 53 foreign and local

contenders to design and carry out the project in 1989. The estimated cost was eight billion escudos (£32 million). But changes in the design and other problems quadrupled the cost.

CHRONOLOGY

Ministers who fell by the wayside

BY SHEILA GUNN POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE road to Maastricht is littered with the corpses of British politicians. At first it was the Labour party which moved from a firm anti-EC stand in the early 1980s to a policy of Euro-enthusiasm by the 1992 general election.

For Margaret Thatcher, her 11-year tenure of Downing Street was frequently by incidents of "handbagging" Jacques Delors and his corps in Brussels. The divisions in the Tory party over Europe cost her a succession of Cabinet ministers: Nigel Lawson, Nicholas Ridley and Sir Geoffrey Howe, until November 1990 when she, too, fell victim. Key steps to the Lisbon summit:

January 1973: Britain, Ireland and Denmark join EEC. Norway opts out after a referendum.

March 1979: European monetary system set up.

June 1979: European parliament holds first direct elections.

July 1987: Single European Act comes into force with backing of Britain.

June 1988: Hanover EC summit commissions the Delors report on economic and monetary union.

April 1989: Delors report on EMU published.

June 1989: All member states endorse Delors stage one at Madrid summit. Sir Geoffrey Howe, the foreign secretary, reportedly persuades Thatcher into committing Britain to principle of joining exchange rate mechanism.

October 1989: Nigel Lawson resigns as chancellor after dispute with Thatcher adviser Sir Alan Walters on date of entry into ERM.

June 1990: Dublin summit sets up two inter-governmental conferences on economic and political union.

July: Nicholas Ridley resigns from Thatcher cabinet after anti-German remarks in *The Spectator*.

October: Cancellor Major announces Britain's entry into ERM. Rome summit sets date of 1994 for stage two of Delors report on EMU. Further splits within Thatcher cabinet exposed: Thatcher tells Commons that proposals on EMU agreed at Rome are "the back door to a federal Europe".

November 1: Sir Geoffrey resigns from Thatcher cabinet in protest at the prime minister's remarks.

November 27: John Major replaces Mrs Thatcher as prime minister.

December 1991: Mr Major returns from Maastricht with deal to sign treaty with opt-outs on the single currency and the social chapter. Commons votes in favour of Maastricht treaty at end of two-day debate by majority of 86. Seven Tories vote against.

May 21, 1992: Major government wins majority of 244 on second reading of European Communities (amendment) bill to ratify the Maastricht treaty. 22 Tory MPs vote against.

June 2: Denmark votes against ratifying the Maastricht treaty in national referendum. In the days following, more splits show up within both Tory and Labour parties on Europe. The bill is held up while EC negotiates the bulk of the treaty.

June 18: Irish referendum votes in favour of treaty.

June 26: EC summit opens in Lisbon.

Mitterrand seeks delay in growth

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN PARIS

ARMED with strong parliamentary approval for the Maastricht treaty, President Mitterrand now wants Lisbon to "end with a strong political message: Europe goes on", according to the Elysee. To achieve a common front, the French say, the European leaders should forgo final decisions on the two main topics: the entry of new members and the new "Delors II" budget.

While in Lisbon, M Mitterrand will also propose the creation of an emergency

Kohl seeks to keep the ball rolling

FROM IAN MURRAY IN BONN

HELMUT Kohl will arrive in Lisbon today as a man in a hurry. The German chancellor is deeply worried that the opportunity to create the United States of Europe he has dreamt about is in danger of slipping away. Despite the Danish referendum result, he wants to use the Lisbon summit to accelerate the processes of European integration and enlargement.

As far as Herr Kohl is concerned, the best way of making sure the Danes change their minds is to send out a message from Lisbon that Maastricht will not be amended to suit them. He would like the summit to agree that not only will the rest of the EC move on without Denmark if need be, but that other Scandinavian nations will be given membership soon so the Danes could quickly find themselves isolated in a unifying Europe.

Behind the chancellor's urgency lies the fact that enthusiasm for Europe in his own country is fading quickly. The prospect of losing the mark in the interests of a common currency has antagonised public opinion.

The 16 federal states (Länder) have been demanding full consultation rights in every aspect of EC policy in order to prevent centralisation. Herr Kohl spent yesterday locked in debate with the prime ministers of the states over how to satisfy their demands. He agreed to examine a constitutional change which would give the Länder a veto over any transfer of powers to Brussels. The chancellor knows that the principle of subsidiarity must be guaranteed and shown to work if public suspicion about the EC is to be allayed.

Concern is also growing in Bonn that when Britain takes over the EC presidency, John Major will pay more attention to Tory Euro-sceptics than the process of integration. Given his decision to postpone debate on Maastricht until the autumn, there is little expectation in Bonn of any urgency by London to speed integration.

Marchesa's saucy strip spices Italian affairs

Italy is agog with a marchesa's comic strip love life, writes John Phillips from Rome

AS GIULIO Andreotti takes his last bow as Italy's prime minister in Lisbon, at home people are gripped by the adventures of the Marchesa Marina Ripa di Meana, wife of the European Community's environment commissioner, who has written a "daring and rebellious" comic strip based on her many loves.

"Only recently I understood that comics represent the dimension of adventure for me, the true possibility of continuous hyperbole, the impetuous area of life that links what really happens and what could happen," the marchesa, 50, said in the introduction to *The Adventures of Marina*. "In any case," she added, "I feel exactly like a comic character: dilettante, exhibitionist, excessive, making continuous incursions into the sacred gardens of the arts, where severe priests see me as smoke in their eyes. This is why, after books, newspapers, film, photographs and television, I decided to write comics."

The volume is illustrated with erotic drawings by the



Naked ambition: a frame from the erotic comic written by the Marchesa Marina Ripa di Meana, wife of the European environment commissioner

artist Sandro Rosi that leave little to the imagination. "I have called my double Marina Mayer," the marchesa said. "I gave her poetic licence only so far as autobiographical details were concerned. But I demanded faithfulness to the daring and rebellious actions in my life."

The marchesa said she had spent months researching comic strips in France and Belgium, evidently profiting from the posting of her husband, Carlo Ripa di Meana, to Brussels. "I

finished up passing months and months in Paris and Brussels ferreting in newsstands, kiosks, bookshops and department stores for thousands and thousands of comic strips starting with those based on Brigitte Bardot."

During the campaign, the environment commissioner sought unsuccessfully to prevent the screening of an Italian television series, *Piazza di Spagna*, which was believed to be based on his wife in Rome. A judge gave the couple part satisfaction by ordering that a notice should be shown by the television station before and after the political soap opera was broadcast declaring that the heroine of the drama was "pure fantasy".

But pundits believe publication of the uninhibited strip cartoon will cloud the already uncertain political future of Signor Ripa di Meana.

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New Israeli leader tells Palestinians he will not surrender to violence and intimidation

Rabin stands firm after six killings

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN JERUSALEM AND CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN CAIRO

YITZHAK Rabin, Israel's future prime minister, yesterday warned Palestinians in the occupied territories that he would not be intimidated by acts of violence. He was speaking after three Israelis and three Palestinians were killed in two attacks in the territories.

The Labour party leader, who emerged victorious in Tuesday's general election, broke off talks on forming a new coalition government to comment on one of the attacks, south of Gaza city, in which two Israeli merchants were stabbed to death by four Palestinians. The killers escaped into the crowded coastal strip.

A central plank of the Labour party's election platform was the need to find a negotiated solution to the problem of the disenfranchised 1.7 million Palestinians living in the territories. Mr Rabin has made it clear that he wants to hold elections in the territories and begin a five-year period of transitional autonomy for the Palestinians.

Yesterday, however, the tough former general, who as defence minister attempted to put down the *intifada* by force when it began, said that he would not tolerate any acts of violence. "They (the merchants) were murdered to harm the chances of peace," he said. "Anyone who thinks



a government headed by us will not deal with terror in all its forms is making a bad mistake."

His remarks came as Israeli forces combed the West Bank in search of two Palestinian gunmen who escaped during the second incident, a shootout in the village of Arrabeh near Jenin, which left three other Palestinians and an Israeli soldier dead.

Ordinarily the two incidents would capture Israeli public attention, but politicians yesterday remained engrossed in the aftermath of the election and the talks on forming a new coalition government.

Mr Rabin has made it clear that he would like a strong and broad-based government, and it is widely expected that, in addition to the left-wing Meretz party, he will be able to attract the two ultra-orthodox groups, Shas and United Torah Jewry, to help

him form a stable majority in the Knesset.

With the final results due today, President Herzog expected to ask Mr Rabin to form a government by sometime early next week. The Labour leader is expected to have his cabinet ready by mid-July.

The picture is less clear in the depressed ranks of the outgoing Likud party, where moves are already underway to replace Yitzhak Shamir, the defeated prime minister, with a younger leader, most probably Benny Begin or Benjamin Netanyahu.

Mr Rabin's new government is expected to comply with American requests that it rapidly resume peace talks with neighbouring Arab states and a Palestinian delegation. The deadlocked negotiations are provisionally scheduled to restart in Rome, their new location, before the end of July. Hopes are high that Labour's election victory will allow matters of substance to replace the procedural wrangling of the five previous unproductive rounds.

As senior members of the PLO, including Mr Arafat, the chairman, discussed the election with Egyptian officials, Nabil Shaath, the organisation's chief political strategist predicted the talks would resume no later than July 21 and then continue



Farewell salute: Yitzhak Shamir, the defeated Israeli prime minister, attending a police graduation ceremony in Jerusalem yesterday

non-stop until an agreement on Palestinian autonomy was reached.

"We are going to race to the target date of November 1 to achieve Palestinian self-rule," Mr Shaath said, claiming that at least 15 of the 45 Labour deputies who won Knesset seats supported direct talks with the PLO (outlawed under Likud) or some kind of Israeli withdrawal

from Arab lands. Mr Rabin has adopted a more realistic timescale, talking of an autonomy agreement for the West Bank and Gaza Strip within nine months. James Baker, the US Secretary of State and main architect of the talks, expressed relief that the choice of Rome as an agreed venue had already been made. "I would hope that we could see the next

round of bilateral discussions taking place just as soon as it is conveniently possible in the aftermath of the formation of a new Israeli government," he added.

As the election dust began to settle, a realisation was growing among PLO officials and other Arabs that the dramatic improvement in Israel's international image resulting from Likud's defeat might make their negotiating task harder than in the past. Until now they have always won the public relations battle hands down.

"There will be an image of a more rational, more reasonable Israeli position to which

the Palestinians will be expected to reciprocate," Mohammed Hallaj, director of the Washington-based Centre for Policy Analysis on Palestine, said. "The most important consequence of the election may simply be to smooth Israeli relations with the U.S., creating new difficulties for the Palestinians."

A key question is whether the Arabs will be able to respond to any overtures from the new Israeli negotiating team. The Palestinian delegation feels vulnerable to pressure from Islamic fundamentalists at home and has been divided on strategy and tactics.

"Rabin is not some kind of Israeli dove who will give away the store. The extent of withdrawal he is willing to consider will be much less than some Arabs have in mind," Martin Indyk, a member of the Washington Institute for Near-East Policy, said.

Observers in Washington pointed out yesterday that Mr Rabin's need for a quick breakthrough on Palestinian self-rule coincided with President Bush's need for a new foreign-policy success to boost his sagging electoral fortunes and win back alienated American Jewish voters.

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Zionist pioneers fear for their future under Labour

WHEN Batya Medad looks out the window of her modern suburban home in Shiloh, a Jewish settlement on the West Bank, she can just make out the hazy form of the Jordanian escarpment on the east side of the Jordan valley.

"It is obvious to anyone who knows anything about defence that you have to keep command of the heights if you want security for the area around you," said the mother of five, who left a comfortable life in Long Island to pursue her Zionist ideals in the heart of the occupied territories.

However, since Israel's general election results devastated the country's rightwing government and brought into power the Labour party, Mrs Medad, 41, and the 100,000-strong community of Jewish settlers in the West Bank and Gaza Strip have found themselves preparing for a new conflict. The battle will not be fought with the Palestinian youths of neighbouring villages and towns, with whom the devout settlers have struggled daily for control of this biblical land, but this time against a potentially more dangerous enemy, their newly elected leader, Yitzhak Rabin.

"Everyone was in a state of shock when the election results came through. We really had not expected such a defeat for the right," said Mrs Medad. Like most residents of Shiloh, the former capital of the ancient Jewish state estab-

Jewish settlers are refocusing their struggle on new areas of conflict, writes Richard Beeston

lished by Joshua, she regards her new home as more than a modern house with a spectacular view over the Samaritan countryside. "I am fulfilling my duty as a Jew in returning to my land and nothing will ever make me leave," she said.

Although the settlements issue led to strained relations between Israel and the United States and threatened to destroy the peace negotiations with the Arabs, it was for more than a decade the centrepiece of the rightwing Likud government's declared goal to colonise the God-given Land of Israel. On Wednesday, however, only hours after his election victory, Mr Rabin signalled that those days were over when he vowed to grant autonomy to the 1.7 million Palestinians living in the territories and halt all public funding for the political settlements. Asked what he intended to do with the small, but highly motivated and heavily armed settler movement, the future prime minister replied: "I did not say we will hang them out to dry. We will not invest in expanding them."

Shiloh, which is sand-

wich between the two large Palestinian towns of Ramallah and Nablus and is more than 15 miles from Israel's borders, would certainly be a prime victim of the new policy, a point made clear by the hectic road building and housing construction underway yesterday with only weeks to go before the Labour government comes to office. However, the settlers will not be marginalised so easily and have vowed to resist through peaceful and possibly violent means any attempts to cut them off or grant their Arab neighbours political rights.

"If the struggle fails and autonomy is implemented, there is already talk of using weapons against the Arabs," said Ephraim Meir, the leader of the settler movement, who lives in Bet El. His views were echoed by Eliahu Sharbit, who lives in Kochav Yaakov. He said: "We will not leave this place and if anyone mentions evacuation of settlements he must know that this country does not belong to Rabin."

Jerusalem: A member of the council representing some 100,000 Jewish settlers in the occupied territories said yesterday they were ready to use violence against Arabs if Mr Rabin granted limited autonomy to Palestinians. "We will do everything in our ability, including physical acts, so that that [Palestinian] council cannot impose itself on us," Benny Katzover told Army Radio. (Reuters)

PEOPLE

Nobel prize goes to Burmese

Detained Burmese opposition leader Aung San San Kyi wants to use her £535,000 Nobel Peace prize to help in health and education for her people, the Nobel Institute said. It said a letter was sent on by her husband, Michael Aris, who was allowed to visit her for the first time in more than two years last month.

The prize money, awarded this year, has been locked in a Swedish bank account awaiting her instructions.

Thomas Kempfner and Heinrich Strubig, the two German hostages freed last week were beaten while in captivity in Beirut, the *Cologne Express*. *Der Spiegel* magazine said they were spat on and forced to drink their own urine.

President Aquino of the Philippines, her voice breaking at times, bade her once-rebel-

lious army an emotional goodbye at a military parade given in her honour five days before she leaves office at the end of a six-year term. She asked the armed forces to stay out of politics. Fidel Ramos, her former defence secretary who was proclaimed by Congress last week as winner of the May 11 election, succeeds her next Tuesday.

Thai pro-democracy leader Chamlong Srimuang said in Canberra he did not expect further political violence in his country as the military's power would be cut under a new government, expected after elections in September.

The FBI has concluded its investigation into an alleged \$535,000 dollar offer to entice Desiree Washington to back down from accusations of rape against boxer Mike Tyson. But it said any state-

ment regarding the case would have to come from the US Attorney's office.

Giandomenico Pico, the UN hostage negotiator who recently announced his resignation as UN assistant secretary-general, was named to the board of the Italian chemicals to food group Montedison SpA. Its managing director, Carlo Sama, said in Milan that Signor Pico's exact duties were still being discussed but he would probably co-ordinate relations with foreign institutions.

Gerard Depardieu, 43, France's leading box-office star, told secondary school pupils in Montmartre that cinema brought him "freedom, and a little dough". His most recent film, *Christopher Columbus*, is scheduled to open in October.

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PEOPLE goes to Burma

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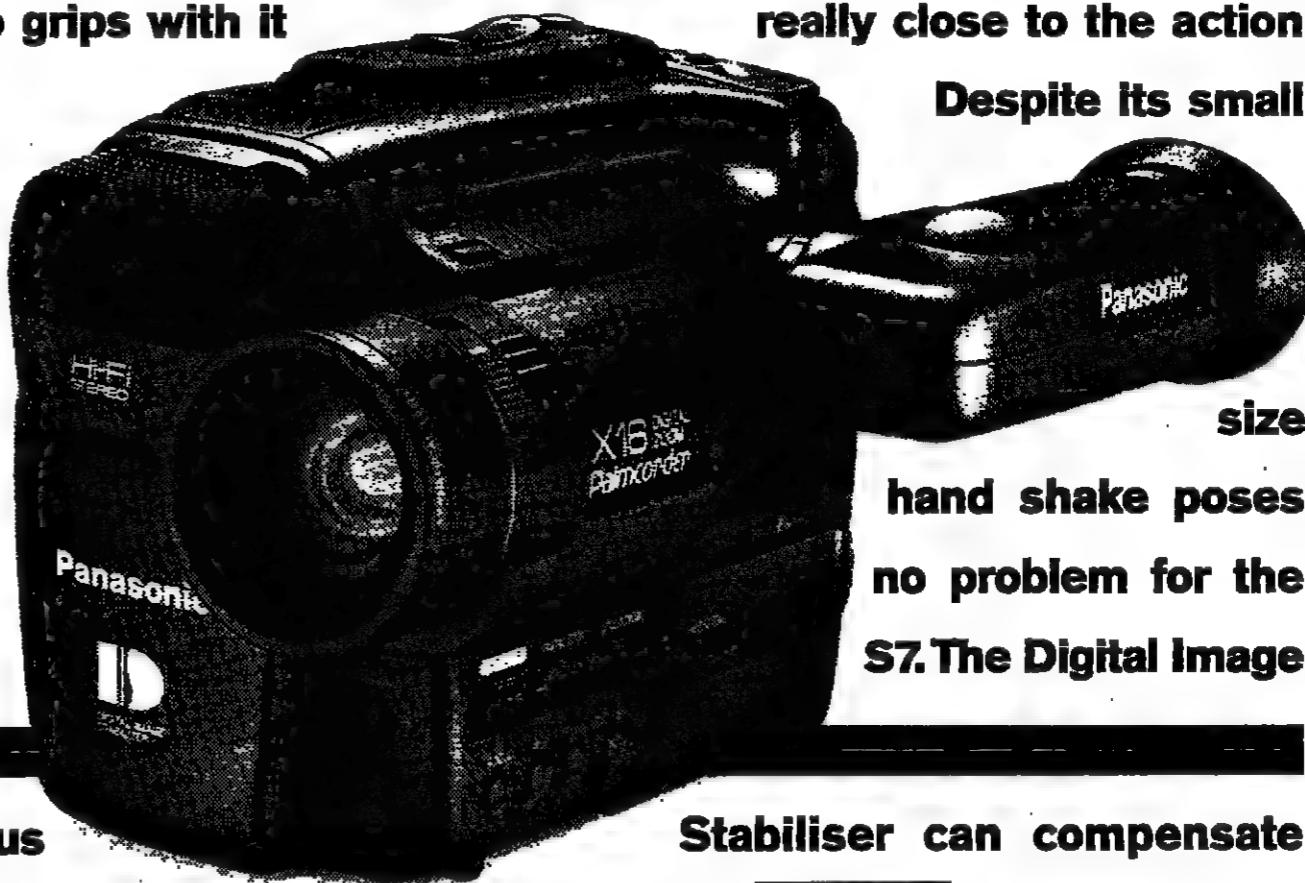
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Web of ethnic hysteria has trapped Russia and its army

SIX months after the red flag stopped flying over the Kremlin and the Soviet Union passed into history, President Yeltsin's Russia is reaping the vicious harvest of 74 years of Soviet rule. Russia itself may be at peace, but it is weak and impoverished and its southern periphery, from Moldova to Tajikistan, is affected by old hostilities.

If local ethnic or political disputes in other republics were all that the Soviet Union had bequeathed, Russia could quietly ignore them and concentrate on rebuilding itself. Russia, however, has inherited a diaspora of Russians accustomed to privilege and protection. Worse, it has inherited an army almost four million strong and huge stockpiles of military hardware, much of it deployed outside Russia. The combination could prove lethal.

Probably only the former Soviet Union's top brass and Russia's senior leaders know

Russia's four million troops are ordered not to take sides in conflicts in the republics, writes Mary Dejevsky from Moscow. But how long can they hold out?

how close the whole region is to full-scale armed conflict, but their fears increasingly penetrate the official shield of caution. Vitali Churkin, the former Soviet foreign ministry spokesman and now a deputy foreign minister, returned from Moldova this week and told reporters: "All our efforts are directed at preventing this happening. You can imagine the explosion." You can indeed.

If it became known that just one section of the army was on the loose, the discipline that still prevails would be gone at a stroke. The former Soviet Union would be a battleground, a free for all, with everyone, soldier and civilian alike, given leave to settle

their ethnic, ideological and social grievances by force.

Preventing such an explosion was the main task that confronted Yevgeni Shaposhnikov when he became commander-in-chief of the commonwealth armed forces six months ago. He held the line for four months. His particular accomplishment was to placate the officer corps until the army as a whole was so fractured that it could no longer pose a unified threat to Mr Yeltsin. Now, Marshal Shaposhnikov is working more behind the scenes, drafting the technical division of an army the country cannot afford. The day-to-day task of keeping control of the army has fallen to Russia. In

every sense, it has inherited a minefield.

The conflict in Moldova offers the most acute example of Russia's predicament, but it is replicated in every republic of the former Soviet Union, inside or outside the Commonwealth of Independent States. The Russian, or pro-Russian, civilian population feels vulnerable: at worst, it has come under physical attack. It is pleading with Moscow to be protected. "Either protect us, or give us your weapons so we can protect ourselves," Moldova's Slavs were saying this week.

The former Soviet troops also feel vulnerable. Their future is uncertain: they come under psychological, and physical, attack from natives who treat them as occupiers; many are sympathetic to the local Russian population. Either get us out, they tell Moscow, or let us join the fighting. They know in Moscow, however, that once the army inter-



venes on behalf of a local minority population, there will be outright war. The new masters of the republics and their people are in no mood to tolerate what they would see as a violation of their new-found independence. The Moldavian president's angry response — "It won't be so easy to bring us to our knees again" — to belittling Russian statements this week would find an echo in almost every other republic.

could become involved on the side of the local Russian population even without an order from Moscow; and the risks of a hasty withdrawal of thousands of discontented troops back to Russia.

The policy of the former Soviet, and now Russian, high command has been consistent. Troops under Russian command must observe neutrality in local conflicts, even if local Russians are involved. If conditions for the military and their families become intolerable (as they did in Nagorno-Karabakh), or the number of officers and men who defect to the local fighters becomes too great (as it might in Moldova), the units are withdrawn. Otherwise they stay, confined to barracks. If necessary and authorised to fire only if they come under attack.

The local Russian population regards that policy as treachery, but so far it has

worked. According to Russian defence ministry figures, 31 Russian servicemen were killed and 69 wounded in the first five months of the year in commonwealth troublespots, a fraction of the losses sustained by the combatants. The judgments are fine, and they work against the relatively placid Baltic states. "Our problem," people there say, "is that there is no war going on. If there were violence, the troops would be gone soon enough." Their frustration is understandable, but so is the position of Russia, although its policy is piling up resentment for the future.

There are hundreds of thousands of troops to be resettled in Russia. Priority must be given to fulfilling international treaties, saving soldiers' lives and preventing the "explosion". Each conflict poses more questions than the last and the "explosion" seems to be coming closer all the time.

Outside force cannot bring Bosnia peace, says Major

By JOHN HOLLAND IN SARAJEVO AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

JOHN Major said yesterday that outside military intervention could not end the fighting in Sarajevo.

Although some French ministers have urged military intervention to open Sarajevo airport for emergency supplies, Mr Major said in an interview published in *Le Monde* that he supported the United Nations line that attempts to reopen the airport would be futile without an effective ceasefire.

"Have you seen where that airport is? It's awfully like Dien Bien Phu," he said, referring to the valley in north Vietnam where a large French garrison was besieged and overrun by communist forces from surrounding hills in 1954.

Asked about possible military intervention, Mr Major said: "It depends what you mean by that. I don't think

military intervention could separate the warring sides. You would need hundreds of thousands of soldiers, and I am not even sure that would be enough." The European Community summit in Lisbon is expected to discuss other options such as a sea or air blockade, but the EC has no military force of its own to mobilise.

Yesterday, Sarajevo was a little quieter after a unilateral pledge by Bosnian Serb forces to stop firing on non-military targets, but mortar and machinegun rounds could be heard echoing through the deserted, shattered streets of the old city.

Lord Carrington, who is leading EC mediation efforts, held a day of talks with Yugoslav leaders in Strasbourg yesterday. Haris Silajdzic, the Bosnian foreign minister, said after the meeting that he was less optimistic about peace in his country.

When Lord Carrington pressed Slobodan Milosevic, the Serbian president, to recognise Bosnia, he deflected the call, denying involvement in the Sarajevo fighting and saying he would await the outcome of stalled talks among the Bosnian, Croatian and Serbian communities.

In Sarajevo, General Lewis Mackenzie of Canada, commander of the UN peacekeeping force, said the UN was "anxious and ready to reopen the airport". He described the Serbs' pledge to stop firing on non-military targets as a "significant commitment which may lead to the reopening of the airport".

The United Nations Protection Force building, a hair-raising, sometimes deadly, three-mile drive from the old city, is in sorry shape. General Mackenzie, who heads the 240-member force holed up in the bullet-ridden post and telegraph building on Marshal Tito Boulevard, says that the fact that the UN is hated equally by all proves its neutrality.

In Sarajevo, the normal rules of the game never did apply. That goes for the UN, too, which is not only viewed with suspicion and mistrust but is also picked on in ways that would lead a less patient force to retaliate.

Some in the UN contingent have served in the Gulf war and in Beirut and Cyprus. Without exception they all say this is the most dangerous assignment they have undertaken. They are not eager to venture out on any patrol in the city that is not absolutely essential.

"This is not an assignment for the faint-hearted," admitted one Dutch soldier, who expressed his admiration for General Mackenzie's stubborn determination not to be bullied out of town. "We won't abandon the Sarajevo operation, the general will see to that," he said. "Who will stick around and try to persuade the two sides to stop firing and talk to each other otherwise?"

"There are some people here with itchy trigger fingers," one French soldier said. "But unfortunately we aren't here to enforce the peace, just to keep it." The question now, as the city slowly dies, is who will make that peace — and make it hold?

Roger Boyes, page 18



Generations apart: President Yeltsin of Russia, above, embracing the Georgian leader, Eduard Shevardnadze, in Dagomys during talks about the confrontation in Ossetia, while Boris Yeltsin, the president's grandson, below centre, awaits a tennis match during a visit to America



Germans argue on abortion

FROM IAN MURRAY IN BONN

IN THE most passionate debate yet seen in the parliament of united Germany, Bundestag members of all parties argued all day yesterday over the rights and wrongs of abortion. The normally near-empty chamber was packed and noisy as the rival pro-life and women's rights factions fought to bring undecided members round to their point of view.

East and West Germany had contrary laws on abortions. They were legal on demand in the East, but in the West a pregnancy could only be terminated if a medical panel agreed it was necessary on medical or social grounds. The issue was left unresolved by the unification treaty, but it specified that a new regulation for the entire country must be in place by the end of this year. Yesterday's debate was held to try to agree a draft law.

Members were allowed a free vote, though the Christian Democratic Union and the Christian Social Union jointly put forward a draft law making abortions illegal unless a doctor agreed it was desirable. The opposition Social Democratic Party, the Free Democratic Party and a few Christian Democrats, including Rita Süssmuth, the Speaker, backed a draft which gave women the final choice.

Polls on the eve of the debate showed that 76 per cent of Germans were in favour of abortion and 71 per cent thought women should be given the choice. Gregor Gysi, the leader of the small group of eastern German communists, suggested that only the 136 women members of the Bundestag should vote on the issue, but the suggestion was rejected.

Women dominated the debate and most spoke in favour of abortion. The CDU/CSU draft, however, was backed by senior members of the government.

Purists fail to stem Frenglish invasion

FROM CHARLES BRENNER IN PARIS

A NEW weapon is added today to the armoury of that ever-growing body of Paris officials charged with preserving the purity of the language: French becomes the official language of France.

"The language of the republic is French," says an article tacked onto the constitution by parliament this week as part of a pre-Maastricht revision, and promulgated in today's *Official Journal*. The sentence, which the drafters of De Gaulle's *Fifth Republic* would hardly have deemed necessary, is intended to bolster the war against Anglo-Americanisms which have been flooding ever faster into the language of Molière, a process which began in about 1919 when the French allowed English as the main text of the treaty of Versailles.

The language of Mickey Mouse, as it is disdainfully termed by the watchdogs, has barely faltered in its inroads, despite the expenditure of millions of pounds on a rear-guard action by President Mitterrand and his ministers for *francophonie*, the latest of whom is Catherine Tasca. The best brains of the Académie Française and government agencies have failed to convince citizens to drop "walkman" in favour of *baladeur*, or "job" for *emploi*. The most recent volume of the sacred dictionary of the Académie lists drugstore, duffel-coat, dumping, dribble and drive among the

16 new foreign words it recognises.

Despite bans on English-only advertising, billboards and magazines are laden with Anglo-Saxon, often in the franchised variant. Do you want a car "de standing", or "trés performant", asks one. To the dismay of the purists, the attraction of American culture is forcing out French in favour of bastardised Frenglish.

The hegemony of English is particularly strong in commerce, and France fears that matters will get worse with European integration. The domestic airline TAT, Transport Aérien Interregional, has for example, recently named itself TAT-European Airlines. Even Parisian waiters are being forced by officialdom to give up their traditional disdain for anyone speaking less than perfect French and are attending French classes in the modern lingua franca.

Among the young, Frenglish has virtually replaced French in casual conversation. To be hypercorrect, you have to know *les tags* of all the top rappers among *les blacks* of New York.

Few imagine Mitterrand's team can turn back the tide. "French still has great prestige in all the countries of the world," says Alain Decaux, the historian and last *francophonie* minister. "It is retreating as the first language but we can bolster its place as second."

France catches up with accelerating roadhogs

THE FRENCH are being hit where it really hurts — in the driving seat, Charles Bremner reports

OVERTAKING French motorists this summer will soon not be what it was: instead of accelerating to prevent this assault on his dignity, today's Gallic driver may meekly let you pass. The explanation is not a sudden outbreak of civility but a new and much loathed system for punishing errant drivers that starts next week. Under the scheme, drivers can lose their licences if the police catch them accelerating while they are being overtaken.

For weeks the roads have been cluttered with demonstrations by taxi and lorry drivers, motor cyclists and travelling salesmen. All incensed at what they see as the injustice being inflicted on them by Georges Sarre, the roads and waterways minister. A points scheme similar to that in Britain and elsewhere is intended to reduce the highway slaughter that annually claims nearly 10,000 lives, far more than in any comparable country. In addition to existing penalties, drivers under M Sarre's new regime will automatically lose their licences if they acquire six points.

From any but a French driver's viewpoint, the new penalties seem mild. For killing someone in an accident or driving with a super-inducing quantity of Bordeaux in the bloodstream, for example, drivers lose only three points, compared with two for accelerating while being passed and one for exceeding the

80mph motorway speed limit. A new licence can be applied for after six months.

"It is just a way of taking away our livelihood," grumbled Cyril Neveu, five-times winner of the Paris-Dakar rally, who says he prefers to travel by helicopter anyway. Paul Belmondo, son of the actor and a noted formula one driver, said: "The only thing they will achieve is putting people under stress."

In similar vein, the president of the national travelling salesmen's union could be seen haranguing M Sarre on television this week, telling him that a moment of distraction could lose him his livelihood. And the road haulage president spoke of the inhumanity of imposing equal measure on the weekend motorist and those law-abiding citizens who drive lorries for a living. The points system, said *VSD* magazine, was the last straw after recent government action to discourage smoking and love-making.

M Sarre and his teams of psychologists are fully aware that they are striking at a cherished means of self-expression. To encourage a new outlook, penitent motorists will be allowed to absolve

themselves of two points by attending therapy at the hands of experts in courses under the theme: *Savoir conduire, c'est savoir vivre*, which roughly translates as "To know how to drive is to know how to live".

The psychologists will have a hard time purging a whole culture of its motoring mentality. A look at advertisements confirms that the car remains a Frenchman's favourite weapon, an extension of his sexuality and instrument of revenge. Audi, for example, boasts that its latest model is so solid it will guarantee the preservation of "certain things which are indispensable to masculine powers of seduction... those attributes which nature has given you".

But supporters of the new law point out that attitudes are slowly changing. It is no longer considered a joke, as it was until recently, to be stopped for drink driving, although the message has not penetrated everywhere. The UAP insurance company has just published extracts from drivers' letters of claim. One complains that an accident was not his fault because, although he was intoxicated, the other car crossed to his side of the road. "Honestly, I ask you, is it better to be drunk on the right side or a roadhog on the left?" the driver demands.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Black Sea nations sign deal

Istanbul: After the declaration on Black Sea economic co-operation, signed by 11 nations in Istanbul yesterday, President Snegur of Moldova met President Yeltsin of Russia to try to find a solution to the civil war in the Transnistria region (Andrew Finkel writes). They were joined by the leaders of the other two countries affected by the conflict, President Iliescu of Romania and President Kravchuk of Ukraine.

The signatories to the declaration, which include Greece and Georgia, are now committed to facilitating the circulation of goods and services. The agreement stops well short, however, of a commitment to any grander economic union. Greece is a member of the European Community and Turkey is bound by trade and tariff agreements with Europe. Turkey's success in bringing together nations, some of whom are engaged in armed conflict, reflects a desire to offset Russian dominance around the Black Sea basin.

Dam destroyed

Moscow: Turkmenistan has destroyed the Kara-Bogaz dam, a relic of the Soviet era which, in ten years, reduced the gulf of Kara-Bogaz to salt flats and caused the waters of the Caspian Sea to rise to the point where they regularly flooded coastal areas.

Spy sentenced

Berlin: A former press spokesman at the US military mission in Berlin was given an 18-month suspended sentence after admitting spying for the former Soviet KGB. South African-born Stephen Laufer was also fined 20,000 marks (£6,860). (Reuters)

Socialist purge

Helsinki: The Socialist International, an international union of social democratic parties, is weeding out communist and anti-democratic groups. Luis Ayala, its secretary-general, said. Credentials would be rigorously examined, he said. (Reuters)

Kabul attack

Kabul: Forces of Ahmed Shah Massoud, the Afghan defence minister, attacked Shia positions near the city's interior security ministry. Heavy street fighting between soldiers armed with Kalashnikovs and machineguns was reported. (AFP)

Two hanged

Tirana: Two Albanians who robbed and banded to death a family of five were publicly hanged in the town of Fier and their bodies displayed in the town square. Executions are rare in Albania but the crime was regarded as especially heinous. (Reuters)

Aid for women

Stockholm: For an experimental year from July 1, police in four Swedish regions are to equip women subject to persistent sexual harassment with free alarms, mobile telephones and even bodyguards, a police spokesman said. (Reuters)

Jewellery stolen

Paris: Thieves broke windows at the chic Paris jewellery store Chaumet at lunchtime and in full view of shoppers stole rings, earrings and necklaces worth about two million francs (£200,000), police said. An investigation was under way. (AP)

Trawler war, page 1
L&T section, page 4

its army

According to Russian defence ministry figures, the Russian army is the largest in the world, with 1.5 million men. It is also the most modern, with a high proportion of tanks and sophisticated weapons. The army is also the most powerful, with a long history of fighting in major wars. The Russian army is also the most respected, with a high level of discipline and loyalty. The Russian army is also the most feared, with a reputation for being ruthless and efficient. The Russian army is also the most powerful, with a long history of fighting in major wars. The Russian army is also the most respected, with a high level of discipline and loyalty. The Russian army is also the most feared, with a reputation for being ruthless and efficient.

Coloured voters in Cape reject ANC for de Klerk party

FROM MICHAEL HAMLYN IN JOHANNESBURG

IN A week in which very little has gone right for South Africa's beleaguered President de Klerk, there was some good news yesterday. His National party triumphed in a parliamentary by-election in the Diamant constituency at Kimberley in the Cape.

The really good news was that this was a Coloured constituency. The new MP will sit in the Coloured-only House of Representatives in the tricameral parliament. The victory signals the strong tendency of the Coloured community to support the Nationalists, and indicates the likely power of the ruling party when it comes to a one-man, one-vote election in a future non-racial democracy.

The seat was a stronghold of the Labour party, and had been so for 25 years, thanks largely to the personal charisma of one of the founders of the party, a local hero, Sonny Leon. But the Labour party

has recently become associated with the African National Congress. Allan Hendrickse, the Labour leader, sits beside Nelson Mandela, the ANC president, in negotiations for a new democratic structure, and in this by-election Labour marched under ANC colours, with more or less overt ANC support. The Coloured community was in effect invited to choose between supporting Mr Mandela or supporting Mr de Klerk. Overwhelmingly, they chose Mr de Klerk.

The voting in a surprisingly high poll of 34.2 per cent (the tricameral parliament has always had exceptionally low turnout) was Howard Isaac, National party 7,175; John Scholtz, Labour party 4,263. Nationalist majority 2,912.

The real importance of this vote is that the National party is plainly going to be dominant in the Cape Province, where there are more Coloureds than there are

blacks. According to the latest *Race Relations Survey*, while there are 2,767,700 Coloureds in the Cape, there are 2,375,100 blacks. The whites total 1,339,600.

There were some special circumstances in Kimberley, but they worked both ways. According to a seasoned observer, Norman West of the *Sunday Times*, himself a Coloured man, there were three factors in Labour's favour.

"Kimberley has traditionally been a Labour stronghold," he said. "John Scholtz is a strong candidate and a local man, and the National party candidate was a political beginner. And the Labour party had the support of the ANC."

On the other hand, the Nationalists brought a highly efficient campaigning apparatus to bear. This showed in the huge proportion of special votes cast (by absentee, or by the elderly or infirm) before the polls opened.

But the main advantage to the Nationalists is that, forced to choose, the Coloured community voted for its cultural roots. The Coloureds, mainly working-class, but with bourgeois aspirations, speak Afrikaans, attend the Dutch Reformed Church, and like to think of themselves as Afrikaners. They have witnessed so much black-on-black violence on television that they are horrified by the thought of a black government.

This is all paradoxical, since the Coloured community has suffered bitterly at the hands of white racism. Many Coloured families were divided by the race classification laws which labelled some of them as white and some as black. Their houses in some of the more pleasant parts of the province were bulldozed and families dumped in new locations.

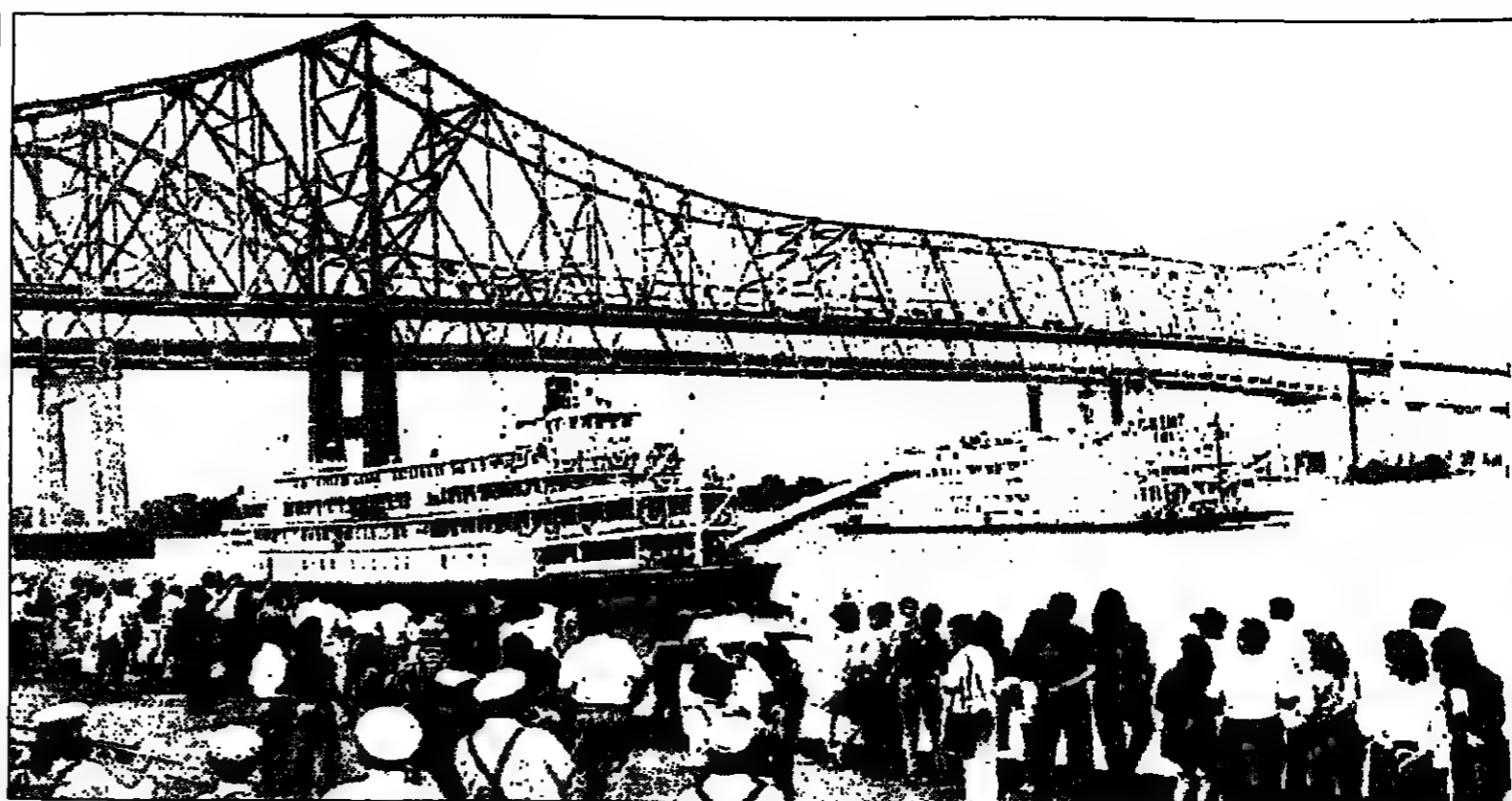
"They were treated like step-children, and driven out. But now that the parents are allowing them back doesn't mean they should run off with strangers," Mr West said.

The ANC, trying to put a good face on the defeat of its surrogate, congratulated the Coloured community in Kimberley for boycotting the poll in such large numbers.

● New scandal: A new scandal linking the South African security forces to violence in black townships is reported today by the *The Weekly Mail* newspaper.

According to Anton Harber, the paper's editor, the ANC intelligence unit has accused the police of controlling a group of armed men from the old Koevoet force, a covert operation used against insurgents in Namibia, and said to have been involved in the Boipatong massacre.

Olympic nerves, page 40
L & T section, page 5



All steamed up: the Delta Queen and the Mississippi Queen, waiting in New Orleans for the start of the fourteenth annual enactment of a 1878 Mississippi steamboat race between the Robert E Lee and the Natchez. The boats will sail to St Louis for a July 4 celebration

Apathy looks likely winner in Malawi poll

FROM JAN RAATH IN HARARE

MALAWIANS are expected to vote with their feet today by staying at home in large numbers to show they regard parliamentary elections under President Banda's dictatorial system as futile.

A purported 1.5 million voters have been registered for the two-day election for 141 seats in the Malawian legislature, described by government officials as an example of democracy under the "wise leadership" of the nonagenarian life-president. Although only members of the Malawi Congress Party, the only legal party since 1966, may stand, each seat can be

contested by as many as seven candidates, they argue. Few beyond the top echelon of the party are moved by this. So little interest has been shown in the contest that 45 of the seats, nearly a third, have been declared elected unopposed.

It is regarded by observers as almost certainly the last parliamentary election — presidential elections are unnecessary since Dr Banda gave himself life-long tenure of office in 1970 — to be held under the present regime.

Its previously indisputable authority had been undercut by a series of unprecedented shows of defiance, starting on March 7 with the publication of a pastoral letter by the coun-

try's Catholic bishops that called for the introduction of democratic reform. Since then, Dr Banda has watched opposition grow bolder and more public, in the form of thousands of rioters taking to the streets in a violent demonstration in support of jailed pro-democracy organisers and having to officiate over a nearly empty stadium in Lilongwe in April when the annual "Kamuzu day" celebrations were staged for him.

The candidates standing are not allowed to campaign: they are introduced to the constituents by party officials and, in theory, allowed to make up their own minds, although the buying of votes by candidates is a

well-known practice. This time, however, sources report that the introductory meetings have been thinly attended.

The government appears to be aware of the strong chances of an embarrassingly low poll, after decades of what is officially characterised as "enthusiastic support for Malawian democracy". Officials of the Congress party will be the only observers during the voting, and no outside journalists have been permitted into the country. The most keenly felt futility of the process is that it will do nothing to open the aid taps that were shut by donor nations in Paris last month to push Dr Banda to relax his grip



This mother has to hurt the one she loves
730 times a year.

A baby with diabetes doesn't just depend on his mother for nourishment and love.

The child is also dependent on two insulin injections a day, every day, just to stay alive.

Sadly, thousands of parents in this country have to face this distressing task.

Over a million people suffer from diabetes in the UK. And recent reports show that the incidence of diabetes in

children under 15 has nearly doubled over the last 15 years. (British Medical Journal, 1991, 302: p.443-7)

The British Diabetic Association is the UK's single biggest contributor to diabetes research.

You could help us by sending a donation, joining the BDA or by remembering us in your will. Please do, because this mother and many others are depending on us to find a cure.

To the BDA, 10 Queen Anne Street, London W1M 0BD.
Tel: 071-323 1531. A charity helping people with diabetes and supporting diabetes research.
I enclose a cheque/postal order payable to the BDA £
Debit my Access/Visa Card by the amount of £
Please send me more information and membership details ☐
Name _____
Address _____
Signature _____
Below which is applicable: Ref: BDA/MS/20/90 5/1/92 5/1
5. BRITISH DIABETIC ASSOCIATION

NEWS IN BRIEF

Black Sea nations sign deal

Istanbul After the declaration of Black Sea economic cooperation, signed in Istanbul yesterday, the five littoral states of the Black Sea — Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Romania and Ukraine — agreed to work towards a common goal of economic development and stability in the region. The agreement, known as the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC) agreement, was signed by the heads of state of the five countries. It sets out a framework for cooperation in various fields, including trade, transport, energy, and culture. The agreement is seen as a significant step towards the economic integration of the Black Sea region and the promotion of peace and stability in the area.

Dam destroyed

Moscow A dam on the Kura River in Azerbaijan has been destroyed by a massive earthquake, causing widespread flooding in the region. The earthquake, which measured 6.5 on the Richter scale, struck the area on Tuesday night. The dam, which was built in the 1960s, was severely damaged and collapsed, releasing a large volume of water. The flooding has displaced thousands of people and caused significant damage to property and infrastructure. The government has ordered a state of emergency in the affected areas and is working to evacuate people and provide relief.

Spy sentenced

Brussels A Belgian court has sentenced a man to 15 years in prison for spying for the Soviet Union. The man, who was born in the Soviet Union and lived in Belgium, was found guilty of passing on classified information to the Soviet intelligence services. The court heard that the man had been working as a spy for several years, during which time he had provided the Soviets with valuable information on Belgian military and political affairs. The man's sentence is the highest yet for a spy convicted in Belgium. He is expected to serve his sentence in a Belgian prison.

Socialist purge

Helsinki The Finnish government has announced a purge of socialist members from the cabinet. The government, led by Prime Minister Jari Rinne, has decided to remove several ministers who are members of the Finnish Socialist Workers' Party. The decision is seen as a move to strengthen the government's position and to ensure that it has the support of a majority in the parliament. The ministers being removed are expected to be replaced by members of other parties. The purge is a significant development in Finnish politics and is likely to have a major impact on the government's policies.

Kabul attack

Kabul A suicide bomber has killed 10 people and wounded 30 others in an attack on a crowded market in Kabul. The bomber, who was disguised as a civilian, detonated his explosive belt in the middle of the market. The attack took place on Thursday morning and caused widespread panic among the people in the area. The government has ordered a search for the bomber and has vowed to bring him to justice. The attack is the latest in a series of bombings in Kabul, which have caused many deaths and injuries.

Two hanged

London Two men have been hanged for the murder of a woman in London. The men, who were both aged 30, were found guilty of the murder of a 25-year-old woman. The woman was found dead in a park in London on Tuesday night. The men were arrested on Wednesday and were charged with the murder. They were found guilty at a trial in London on Thursday. The judge sentenced them to hang for their crimes. The execution took place on Friday morning.

Aid for women

Stockholm A Swedish government report has called for more aid for women in need. The report, which was published by the Swedish Social Insurance Agency, found that many women in Sweden were living in poverty and were in need of financial assistance. The report called for the government to increase its spending on social welfare programs for women. It also called for more support for women who are single parents or who are unemployed. The government has agreed to consider the recommendations of the report.

Jewellery stolen

London A woman has reported the theft of a large amount of jewellery from her home in London. The woman, who lives in a flat in central London, reported that she had lost a necklace, a bracelet, and several rings. The jewellery was worth an estimated £10,000. The woman has reported the theft to the police and is asking for help in recovering her property. The police are currently investigating the case and have asked anyone who has information about the theft to contact them.

As Europe's leaders gather in Lisbon, three Times writers assess a continent at war and peace

The government's predicament over Europe is, a senior official said to me this week, like a surreal game of snakes and ladders. At present the snakes look long and the ladders short. Following the Danish vote three weeks ago, ministers have been manoeuvring to keep the Maastricht agreement alive in the face of domestic doubts and external buffeting. John Major knows where he wants to go, but he may be unable to regain the initiative for several months.

Each move is fraught with potential difficulty. The Irish vote in favour of Maastricht was only a small ladder, a respite before this week's potential snakes: the 48-hour working-week directive, the reappointment of Jacques Delors as commission president, and the Lisbon summit. During Britain's presidency of the EC, there will be continuing arguments over the budget and frontier controls, tricky obstacles to completing the single market, the French referendum in the early autumn, the Conservative conference in October, and discussions about how to keep the Danes on board.

Two weeks ago, I compared Mr

Major to Harold Wilson in his 1960s prime as a political manager, blurring issues of principle to avoid splits, and saying enough to each side to keep them content. One minister acknowledged the similarity of tactical skills, but says that a key difference is that Mr Major always has a clear goal. He may approach his objectives in a roundabout way, but he is determined to get there.

At present, for instance, the Euro-sceptics (both the two dozen diehard anti-EC Tory MPs and 50 sympathisers) are in danger of misjudging Mr Major, of mistaking his manoeuvring for tacit agreement. The prime minister has no time for diehards like William Cash, and regards as naive many of their sympathisers, especially the 20 odd new MPs who signed a recent Commons motion. Current attempts to isolate Douglas Hurd may also backfire. At Wednesday's meeting of backbenchers, he was sharply questioned when the sceptics turned up in force and actively briefed the media afterwards. The worries of Tory MPs should not be underrated, but Mr Major sees the attacks on Mr Hurd as aimed at

Can Major win at snakes and ladders?

Peter Riddell on the outlook for Britain's EC presidency

him. So far, there is no gap between the prime minister and the foreign secretary.

The approach adopted by Mr Major and Mr Hurd is clear. The Maastricht treaty contains real advantages for Britain in curbing centralising forces, and is better than any likely alternative. Mr Major was firm yesterday in the Commons, saying that "in due course" he would seek the support of MPs for ratification. The treaty was negotiated in good faith, and he has "no intention of breaking the word of the British government". Nor has he any interest in "compromising what we agreed and wrecking this country's reputation for plain dealing".

But the ratification bill is in limbo until the attitudes of other EC countries are clarified. There is no point in forcing the issue until after France's referendum. Meanwhile, the government's tactic is to keep the temperature down. That is not always easy. Despite Gillian Shephard's efforts in a tight spot, Wednesday night's outline deal on working time was not quite the triumph that was claimed. Brussels will acquire new powers, and Britain has reserved the right to challenge any final directive in the European Court. The reappointment of M Delors — described yesterday by foreign office minister Tristan Garel-Jones as a "high-minded individual" — was never

going to be popular with Tory MPs in view of his oddity exaggerated status as a demon. But the squall can be survived.

The main positive option for the government is to build on the subsidiary clause in the Maastricht treaty. This is the main support for ministers' claims about a new decentralising trend. Following the unexpectedly interventionist results of the Single European Act, Tory MPs are suspicious and point to lawyers' doubts about whether subsidiarity will be legally enforceable. M Delors was left in

no doubt at his dinner in Downing Street on Tuesday that a British priority in his presidency will be to flesh out the subsidiarity clause. He apparently took the point, which is now being made by other EC countries.

Much can go wrong. The French may reject the treaty. The Danes, already in a political mess, may not sort out their worries; and if they delay too long, Germany and France will want to press ahead. And the Danes may turn out to want more social and environmental measures unacceptable to Britain. The discussions on subsidiarity may produce waffle rather than the administrative mechanisms Britain wants.

My hunch, however, is that Mr Major's more assertive new approach will be vindicated. Provided other countries ratify the treaty, the Commons will do so. Any Tory revolt will be much smaller than is currently threatened, and as in the past, Labour will split, with some MPs backing the bill. Current warnings by the opposition against going ahead are primarily designed to hide internal divisions. As Giles Radice, a Labour supporter of the EC, warns in

Offshore, his new book on British attitudes to Europe, "a switch back to outright opposition, or even to scepticism, would lack any political credibility. It would cut Labour off from constructive dialogue with other EC sister parties."

But climbing the ladders and avoiding the snakes entails costs. The strategic choices facing Britain have been blurred. Mr Major has presented ratification as a mark of Britain keeping its word, and only secondarily in terms of influence on European developments. Mr Hurd has been more candid about the Foreign Office's fears about threats to the traditional British goal of ensuring that the main continental powers do not combine to take decisions on their own which affect us, notably on defence and monetary affairs. The relationship between monetary union, enlargement of the Community and the redistribution of resources to poorer countries on the Mediterranean or in central Europe has been barely discussed.

Mr Major's political skills may win him success in the battles over Maastricht, but he may find at the end that Britain's place in Europe remains as unresolved as ever.

Cross-Channel rivalry, by Peter Millar

From Agincourt to trawler war

Amid all the rapid changes across Europe, it is comforting to find vibrant traces of great unaltered historical traditions, such as the antipathy between the English and French. I can imagine the summer air around the Scilly Isles turning blue yesterday as two British trawlers fought French fishermen allegedly armed with wirecutters to sever their nets. This refreshingly direct confrontation will now inevitably be relegated to the dull corridors of European justice; but for a moment, as HMS Brecon headed out to defend the men of Blyth, the discerning could make out the ghost of Nelson on the poop, still declaiming: "You must hate a Frenchman as you hate the devil".

The relationship between the French and British — or to be more precise the English, for the Scots have had their own flirtations across the Channel — has always been a mixture of love and loathing. As far back as the mid 16th century, Sir Philip Sidney was referring to France as "that sweet enemy". But the affair goes back much further, to the Hundred Years War, which spanned the 14th and 15th centuries and might be considered the longest ever divorce proceedings between two nations.

What was at issue was the question of separate identity, confused ever since the Normans conquered England but refused to relinquish their claim to the French throne. Their attempt to hang on to their ancestral lands with the aid of the Anglo-Saxon peasantry pressed into their feudal armies helped to fuse conquered and conquerors into something approximating a nation. After the Black Prince won the Battle of Crecy in 1346, dusting up a few Frenchmen became an acknowledged way of winning one's spurs and attaining manhood. By the time of Agincourt in 1415, there were quite clearly Englishmen on one side and Frenchmen on the other. So by the time Shakespeare got round to writing his stirring stuff, he could invoke the trinity of England, Harry and St George on the same side.

Since then, the role of chief enemy of the moment has been shared out a bit, at first to the Spanish and their armada, later to the Germans. But there has remained a lingering suspicion — notably among the high command at Balacava when England and France were allies against the Russians — that the French were the real enemy.

During most of the colonial expansion of the 19th century, the world seemed big enough for both European powers, but there were fraught moments, as at Fashoda in the Sudan in 1898. Reduced to absurd map-makers' terms, it was the moment when the French determination to build a horizontal empire in North Africa collided with the British drive for a vertical Cape-to-Cairo empire — and they lost, though with no good grace.

So the English antipathy is fully reciprocated. No French schoolboy fails to learn of England first and foremost as "perfidious Albion". Such an allegation of treachery sounds unreasonable in the light of 20th-century history. We Britons tend to feel aggrieved at a lack of gratitude for having given shelter to General de Gaulle, and endured the Blitz in London while Paris survived unharmed by surrendering. But on the other side of the water, this is perceived as patronising nonsense. Whereas Churchill's wartime offer to unite the two countries under the British crown may have been intended as a gesture of friendship and solidarity to a sister nation under occupation, it was received in Paris as yet another attempt to resurrect the Pétainist claim.

So there ought to have been little real surprise when the same general, installed as French president, pronounced the famous "Non" that slammed in Britain's face the door to the European Community. The Cornish fishermen probably wish it had stayed shut.

The root of the problem is that ever since the Norman Conquest, France has been in the eyes of most Britons, a stand-in for the whole of Europe. Our "continental café" was always trying to be French, just like the "continental breakfast" which would send a German or a Dutchman into a hungry rage. Conversely, whether fishermen or farmers, when we fume with anger at the seemingly meddling decisions of the Europeans, we thank heaven that we still have Jacques Delors: a Frenchman's eyes to damn it. It comes more naturally.



Emergency in Sarajevo, by Roger Boyes

Can the West let a city starve?

Sarajevo was bombed again yesterday, and the United Nations put back the clocks. Unless there is a 48-hour ceasefire in the city, the UN troops will not take the first steps towards securing Sarajevo airport for relief supplies. Meanwhile the people of that disintegrating city — Muslims, Croats and, yes, many Serbs — are eating nettles and subsisting in a hellish netherworld without water or electricity. Serb irregulars are dictating the terms of peace and war to the United Nations and daily demonstrating the impotence of one of the broadest international coalitions ever assembled (America, Europe, Iran, most Muslim states, Russia). This is partly a failure of will and imagination. The UN has been putting much energy into persuading the Serbs to remove anti-aircraft weaponry from within two to four miles of the airport. UN observers may soon be placed next to heavy artillery sites. But it is plain that the Bosnian-Serb leader, Radovan Karadzic, is on a different wavelength: he wants to draw an ethnic green line through Sarajevo, and does not want UN troops milling around the city until he achieves that goal. He repeatedly links the reopening of the airport with the division of the city.

Making the opening of the airport a primary UN aim may therefore be a misjudgment. Securing the airport has become a codeword for limited, tentative military intervention. Since incoming relief planes are vulnerable, the neighbouring mortar and cannon must be silenced either by negotiation or by force. Yet every day of hesitation lives are squandered. There is a limit to how long a community can survive on dandelion soup and dog biscuits.

There is a strong case for thinking again, and thinking quickly. The best option is to air-drop food and medical supplies. That would not only help to relieve the population, it would show them that they have not been abandoned by the world. One can understand the nervousness of military planners in considering armed intervention. Even cap-

turing the airport would need a brigade to take the control tower and landing strip and perhaps three more brigades to hold the roads. That is a great many soldiers, who would be very exposed and would have to be fed and quartered and who would have no clear mission beyond keeping the airport open. Dropping canisters of food and medicines for the hospitals is more feasible and would make a similar point more quickly.

During the Warsaw uprising in 1944, the British flew Halifaxes low over Warsaw across very dangerous terrain, dropping weapons and supplies, and although they had little air cover (the Russians didn't help), they suffered few losses. The air-drop did not change the outcome of the Warsaw uprising, coming too late for that, but eye-witnesses remember how it changed their war psychologically, by briefly giving hope to Poles who spent their lives in cellars and who had been most terribly battered. More recently, a Western air force dropped tons of supplies to the Kurds stranded on the mountainsides of northern Iraq. That too made an important humanitarian and political point.

Something similar has to be done now, within days, for Sarajevo. There are risks, but if the chief of the Serbian and Montenegrin air force, General Bozidar Stevanovic, is to be believed, most of the anti-aircraft missiles are now concentrated around Belgrade. Sensible air cover could protect such a drop, and if necessary shoot down any air attack.

There is risk on the ground too. Snipers might gun down Sarajevo citizens trying to distribute food that had been dropped. These risks, however, are small compared to the scope of the humanitarian mission. An air-drop is probably tolerable to the US electorate; it could involve Germany more actively, and it would reassure those Islamic countries who fear that Bosnian Muslims would be slaughtered in a full scale Western intervention.

The West, bullied by heavily armed Serb irregulars who respect no agreement, has come to believe it is impotent in Bosnia. By the same token, the Serbs are coming to believe they are invincible. The time has come to change the terms of this conflict. Even without posing a direct military challenge to Serbia, the West can demonstrate that it will not accept the willful starvation and destruction of a European city.

...and moreover
ALAN COREN

This could well be the worst week for hacks that there has ever been. This could be the week when our trade grinds slowly to a halt. By next week, pedestrians may be unable to negotiate the nation's pavements for the hacks in cardboard boxes pandering small change.

Should this happen, it will of course be the result of that invariably retrograde force, progress: because we now inhabit an era in which non-necessity is the mother of invention, and those terrible words "technological breakthrough" indicate only that something has been subverted by something else. Since you ask, I do not know if the word subvert exists, but I do not intend to find out, because if I wanted to find out, I would have to drive to a shop which sells batteries so that I could put them in my magnifying glass, and if I did that I should almost certainly get a parking ticket, and when you are faced by life in a cardboard box, you cannot chuck money away on little luxuries like that.

I cannot look up subvert without an illuminating magnifying glass, because my new Oxford English Dictionary is the micrographic version with about a million words per page, none of which can be read without the Oxford English Magnifying Glass that came with it. What you do is, you put the book on the carpet, drop to your hands and knees, flick on the light in the magnifying glass, and slowly go blind and

mad. I did not have to do this with my old OED, because it came in 12 volumes and eye-size print, but when it grew out of date through not having very important words like *yuppy* and *gazump* in it, I decided to buy the single-volume technological breakthrough that subverted it. The effect was to slow down my work by a factor of n , where n represents the need to look a word up and then drive around searching for a meter within walking distance of a battery shop, before driving home and dropping to your hands and knees to go blind and mad. The cost in terms of words not written is, to take a rough figure, incalculable.

And incalculability stands poised for a quantum leap. This week, a lush brochure arrived from OUP announcing that the entire OED is now available on one floppy disk for only £480. Since you again ask, I do not know why it is *disk not disc*, I have been meaning to look this up for some time, and as soon as I get a couple of batteries I may, provided I have not replaced the OEMG with the new OEMD, if I do that, mind, I shall have to have bought a second computer, for if I have to keep removing the disk on which I am writing from my one computer in order to insert the disk containing the word I want to look up, it will take six months to write anything and I shall be in the cardboard box even sooner than if I had bought a second computer. Why, though, should even two computers herald a cardboard

box? Because they will slow me down yet faster than the OEMG they have subverted, thanks to a further technological breakthrough. A brochure speaks: "...now not merely a dictionary, but the most comprehensive thesaurus in the world. Hard-pressed for a synonym for *piet*? How about *causway*, *coh*, *cawwater*, *dike*, *head*, *jetty*, *levee* or *mole*? All these and more can be found by searching for the word *piet* across the entire breadth of the dictionary."

Dear God, the very last thing a working hack needs is the most comprehensive thesaurus in the world. Especially when he has already subverted his typewriter with a computer: in the old days, he would type *To be or not to be, that is the question*, and, faced with the mucky option of Tipp-Ex, leave it at that and go on to the next bit. A word-processor, however, because it has a correction facility (interesting that this term should also have subverted "prison") allows him, indeed encourages him, to think for a while and then write *To be or not to be, that is the dilemma*. Which is how a hack's income gets cut in half. Now add to this a disk which, with 8 synonyms for *piet*, might well contain 50 for *question*. You could spend three years on a linerick. Have I, then, decided against a second computer? Certainly not. It could be extremely useful, if it comes in a nice big cardboard box.

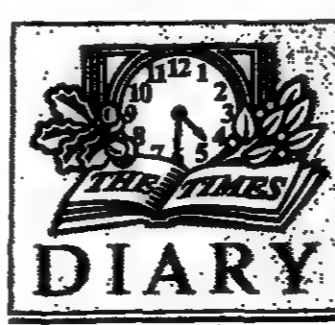
Glensys into the breach

WITH Neil Kinnock looking increasingly likely to become Britain's second-string EC commissioner, a campaign has already begun to groom Glensys as a replacement for him in the Commons. Should he succeed Bruce Millan in Brussels at the end of the year, Kinnock would have to resign his Iswyn seat.

Glensys is as popular as the Opposition leader in the constituency which he has represented since 1970, and would be the first choice of many party activists for the candidacy. Cllr Tom Harris, Labour mayor of Iswyn, who has known the Kinnocks for twenty years says: "I cannot think of anyone better for the job. Mrs Kinnock would make an excellent candidate. If she decides to stand it will be a very popular decision. She is intelligent, astute and has all the qualifications you could wish for."

Cllr Arthur Evans, deputy leader of the Labour group on Iswyn borough council, also believes there is a strong possibility Glensys will be the next MP. "Mrs Kinnock is a very good political person in her own right. As a matter of fact I think she is the driving force behind Neil sometimes. She is certainly assured of my vote." Should she be nominated, Glensys would inherit one of the safest Labour seats in the country.

Kinnock's appointment to Brussels would initially be for two years. There is irony for him in Millan's reputed magnanimous offer to stand down in his favour. Sir Leon Brittan's post as senior commissioner would have been one of the plum jobs at Kinnock's disposal had he become prime minister. Millan's junior post as commissioner for regional policy



would probably have gone to Lynda Chalker. Few expected to see Kinnock taking the job himself.

John Major's drive to appoint more women to senior posts in Whitehall should receive a further boost today when the new head of information at the Ministry of Defence is announced. Gill Samuel, head of information at the Department of Transport, is likely to get the post dealing with information about the male-dominated armed forces. Samuel, who would then have daily access to Malcolm Rifkind, is already being lobbied to press the case for women to fight on the front line.

Cartoon hell

THE American court ruling this week which gave the go-ahead to smokers to sue tobacco companies is lead in the pencil of cartoonist Michael Heath. Followers of his weekly cartoon strip "The Outlaw" should not be surprised to see the last smoker on earth, Michael Common, who is temporarily off the weed, resume smoking in the hope of making a few bucks from the tobacco companies. Heath's strip is now running in *The New York Observer*, and receives regular bulletins from the anti-smoking lobby.

The inspiration for the strip

originally came from America when Heath and a smoker friend stumbled across a whole town in California where smoking was banned. "We were ejected from one bar for lighting up," he says.



"So we went to the lowest part of town and found a bar full of bikers — they weren't smoking either."

Post haste

IT IS just six months since Terry Anderson walked free from his Lebanese captors, but such is the change of mood in the Middle East that the British Foreign Office has decided the time is ripe to send its first female ambassador to the region. Maev Fort, aged 51, will move from her present post as head of mission in Mozambique to become Her Majesty's representative to the Lebanon. She replaces David Tatham.

Beirut may have quietened down in recent months, but it is still not a city to go traipsing around in high heels. Fort, however, is used to tough assignments. Mozambique Lagos and Bangkok were no picnic. But her initial excitement on becoming ambassador to Chad in 1987 was short-lived. King Charles Street deemed

the country too unsafe, and she was forced to conduct the job from Whitehall. She is unlikely to be thwarted again.

Face to face

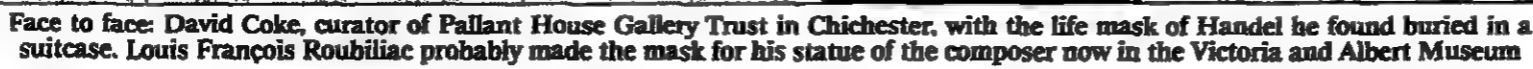
DAVID COKE, curator of the Pallant House Gallery at Chichester, knows how Heinrich Schliemann felt when he "gazed upon the face of Agamemnon". Coke has discovered a "life-mask" of Handel, which has been hidden in a suitcase for years. The mask, made by Louis François Roubiliac, has never been seen by the public, but will be the key exhibit in the gallery's Handel exhibition, opening on Monday.

Coke was called to a collector's home in Hertfordshire and told that something extraordinary had been found in an old suitcase. Wrapped in a tea-cloth was the Handel mask. "I felt a little creepy driving back to Chichester with the mask on the back seat of my car," says Coke, who had already procured manuscript of Messiah. Handel's will and a ticket used for an early performance of Messiah.

Among the many bequests left by the late cookery writer Elizabeth David is a provision for a large selection of her 3,000-volume library to be left to the Warburg Institute in London. David, whose collection of culinary works from the 18th and 19th centuries is regarded as one of the best in the world, states in her will that the Warburg library should house: "All my books relating wholly or in part to cookery, both in its festival and technological aspects". The rest will go to her agent Jill Norman. The decision will surprise some of her friends, who had assumed that the extensive collection would be left to the London Library, where Elizabeth David did much of her research.

BY RICHARD FORD
OME CORRESPONDENT

The CPS said that there were no grounds for action against others. The appeal judges criticised Brian Walsh, QC, who was junior counsel in the prosecution team, and Michael Bibby, a member of the DPP's staff at the time. They said a letter drafted by Mr Walsh and adopted by Mr Bibby was a "serious misrepresentation" of police evidence.




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Yorkshire to boost level of capital expenditure

By GRAHAM SEARJEANT, FINANCIAL EDITOR

SIR Gordon Jones, chairman of Yorkshire Water, said the group was likely to spend £200 million more on capital expenditure than planned when its price limits were fixed for its first five years in the private sector, while raising prices by less than the limits. Total spending up to 1995 is now expected to reach £1.7 billion.

The increase is mainly due to accelerating the construction of sewage works to clean effluent flowing into the Humber Estuary, to meet an EC directive set after the price limits were fixed. In the year to end-March, investment in its utility business rose 16 per cent to £290 million and a further increase to more than £300 million is due this year.

Pre-tax profits rose 8.6 per cent to £124 million after charging £3 million extra operating costs due to drought and £5.5 million for coping with a landslide at a main sewage treatment works. The recession also cost more than £3 million in lower metered sales. Operating costs rose by 12.5 per cent but Sir Gordon says they are still the lowest per head of population of the privatised groups.

The dividend rises 10.2 per cent to 19.5p, slightly above the sector average and in line with the rise in earnings to 57.6p per share. Shares in Yorkshire Water—among the most highly valued in the sector—rose another 7p to 462p.

In contrast to some other water groups, Sir Gordon's pay increased from £119,000 to £143,000 because bonus payments for two years were counted in 1991-2. This stemmed from changes introduced by the non-executive directors, ending incentive bonus payments to board members linked to the group's performance.

More than 99 per cent of

the group's water supplies and about 96 per cent of sewage effluent complied with standards. Gross water leakages are about 20 per cent of supplies (including 6 per cent from customers' pipes), which is below the industry average.

Yorkshire is, however, having to impose hosepipe bans in the east of its territory as a condition of being allowed to vary its NRA licences to increase abstractions from water sources. It is encouraging those domestic customers who would benefit to switch to water meters in a deal where the customer pays the capital cost of £116.

Trevor Newton, the deputy chairman, said a programme to cut the cost of new plant and to make plant controls more sensitive, combined with contracting-out of more services, should flow through to profits over the next four years.

Non-utility businesses contributed a net £2 million to profits from doubled turnover of £40 million, of which £13 million was to external customers. The group expects turnover to double again.

Sir Gordon said Yorkshire was relying on non-core activities to provide the main growth spur to profits when the water investment programme slows after the end of the century. The group has invested £23 million in non-core activities, mainly liquid industrial waste disposal and incineration and has concentrated on organic growth rather than acquisitions.

The engineering division was merged in a joint venture with Babcock to seek work abroad as internal plant design requirements slowed.

Sir Gordon said Yorkshire still aimed to earn 10 per cent of its profits from non-regulated businesses within a few years.



Holding down price increases: Sir Gordon Jones, chairman of Yorkshire Water, which lifted pre-tax profits by 8.6%

Scantronic maintains dividend

By OUR CITY STAFF

SCANTRONIC Holdings, the alarms and security products group, is maintaining its dividend at 2.975p a share for the year, with an unchanged final payout of 2.185p, despite a 21.1 per cent decline in full-year profits.

Chris Brooks, chairman, sounded an upbeat tone on future prospects, especially in the light of recent cost cutting, improved market share, the introduction of new products and a move into new areas.

Pre-tax profits in the year to the end of March fell to £2.54 million (£3.74 million), on turnover down to £36.1 million (£42.9 million). Earnings slipped to 2.18p a share, against 3.83p last time. Interest payments fell to £422,000 (£1.79 million), with gearing reduced to below 20 per cent, against 64 per cent previously.

Chiltern signals a recovery despite passing its payout

By PHILIP PANGALOS

CHILTERN Radio, the local radio station operator, is passing its interim dividend, after 1p last time, despite reduced first-half losses and signs of improved sales.

Peter Burton, the chairman, is cautiously confident of continued recovery. He said the company would eventually benefit from an enlarged customer base and sharper sales operations. "Even with a flat economy, we will be moving ahead," he said.

He described the company's view of the economy as "not hugely optimistic", adding: "We've seen a lot of false dawns. A number of things have happened that have drastically strengthened us, but we do not want to send out any over-optimistic signals." A decision about a final dividend payment will be made

later in the year. Pre-tax losses were trimmed to £179,000 in the six months to March 31, against £234,000 last time. A combination of advertising revenue recovery, acquisitions and increased market share helped turnover to advance to £2.55 million (£1.73 million). Local revenue, which accounts for about three quarters of total revenue, rose 9 per cent, while national revenue jumped 83 per cent from previously depressed levels. The shares eased 3p to 124p.

Chiltern, which runs ten stations spread from the West Country to the home counties north of London, intends to apply for one of the regional radio licences to be offered by the Radio Authority later this year.

It will probably apply for the south-west regional licence,

although the outcome is unlikely to be known before next spring. If Chiltern is successful, its present coverage of 3.5 million adults could be boosted by 1.5 million.

Chiltern, in which both Capital Radio and Anglia TV have stakes of about 20 per cent, also intends to become involved in the third UK national radio channel, INR3, when it is advertised.

Chiltern has responded to depressed business conditions by intensifying its sales strategy. It has turned to smaller advertisers, many of whom did not use radio previously. In this way, it has gained market share and greatly increased the size of its customer-base, although this has been achieved at the cost of higher selling expenses as a proportion of revenues.

Tessa investments top £10bn since launch

MORE than £10 billion has been invested in tax exempt special savings accounts by over 3 million savers since they were launched in January last year. Stephen Dorrell, financial secretary to the treasury, said: "I am delighted that Tessa has become such a popular form of saving over the last 18 months. More than 3 million people have shown that the scheme... is a great success for savers."

In the first three months the accounts were available, more than £5 billion was invested by 2,082,000 people. By the end of last year, more than £7.3 billion was invested. It has now topped £10.4 billion. Two thirds of the money invested in the first three months of this year related to second-year payments.

Stoddard Sekers rises

STODDARD Sekers, the carpet and furnishing fabric maker, said consumer demand remained "dismally low", resulting in a disappointing start to the present financial year. In the 12 months to end-March, the company raised pre-tax profits from £2.5 million to £3.26 million and earnings from 2.8p a share to 3.8p. The final dividend is cut from 1.95p a share to 1.875p, but the total dividend rises from 2.5p to 2.625p. Sales were £46.08 million (£42.98 million). Operating profits increased from £3.1 million to £3.63 million.

Kalamazoo slumps

KALAMAZOO, the computer services and printed systems group, saw pre-tax profits slump to £800,000 (£2.3 million) in the eight months to end-March. Earnings per share are nil (4.1p). A final dividend of 0.875p a share makes a total of 1.4p, against a final of 1.5p a share and a total of 2p for the previous 12 months. The decline was blamed on severe trading difficulties at Kalamazoo Business Systems where profits fell from £1.6 million to £300,000. The company sold two loss-making subsidiaries in New Zealand and America for £1.1 million.

Soundtracs slips back

SOUNDTRACS, a USM-quoted manufacturer of professional audio mixing consoles, is maintaining its interim dividend at 0.85p, despite a dip in pre-tax profits to £175,000 (£195,000) in the six months to April 30. Turnover climbed from £1.57 million to £1.72 million but depressed sales in Japan and America squeezed prices and margins. Todd Wells, chairman, said the market remained volatile. Soundtracs has increased spending on product development. The shares faded 4p to 46p.

Prospect lifts payout

PROSPECT Industries, a Midlands engineer, is more than doubling its interim dividend, from 0.1p to 0.25p, despite sliding into the red in the six months to March. The increase results partly from a company policy to spread payments more evenly. The first half produced a pre-tax loss of £737,000 (£12,000 profit), reflecting a more seasonal bias in the balance of the business since the acquisition of Dunn International. Prospect plans to buy Davenport Holdings, which builds water cooling towers, for £10.1 million.

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- Training of ILCA and NARS staff.
- The person appointed will also take up administrative responsibilities for the computing and biometrics unit.

ILCA's Computer facility comprises an HP3000 series 58 with 60 terminals and over 130 MS-DOS microcomputers at Headquarters which are locally networked under Novell and some 60 MS-DOS microcomputers at other African sites. ILCA is also part of the wide area network, CGNET, with links to many other international computer networks.

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- Ph.D. in Biometry/Statistics or an equivalent degree with at least 5 years experience in biometric consulting for agricultural research, preferably livestock in a tropical environment.
- Proven skills in usage of microcomputers and statistical software packages like SAS, SPSS or GENSTAT and database packages such as dBase.
- Good communication and consulting skills as day-to-day contact with staff of many levels and nationalities will be involved.
- Previous management experience and working knowledge of French would be an advantage.

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Recession restrains bank's results

Hill Samuel debt cuts help TSB to profit at half time

BY NEIL BENNETT, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

TSB Group has returned to profit in the six months to end-April, on a decline in the massive bad debts suffered by Hill Samuel, its merchant banking subsidiary. The bank's figures, however, continue to be depressed by the recession.

The group's pre-tax profits reached £92 million, against a £150 million loss last time. The turnaround was due solely to a 61 per cent fall in bad debt provisions to £165 million, due to the bank's radical action to rescue Hill Samuel. The interim dividend is being held at 3.15p.

Losses at Hill Samuel fell from a record £319 million to £42 million. Despite reorganisation, the merchant bank is

being weighed down by a £1.3 billion book of bad debts, which cost £46 million in additional provisions and £30 million in funding costs.

Profits at TSB's retail bank and insurance business fell by £16 million to £170 million as bad debts rose 54 per cent to £109 million. The bank's income was also hit as customers switched into less profitable, high-interest accounts, where deposits grew by £1.4 billion.

Sir Nicholas Goodison, the chairman, said the bank was far stronger after the reorganisation of the past three years. "We have carried out a thorough analysis of all our businesses. We know now where they want to go, which was not

true three years ago. We have the right people in the right places to improve shareholder value," he said. But he said the bank was being held back by recession, which was the "worst and longest" of his working life. "There are little pockets of recovery, but the recovery will not be dramatic, it will be slow and patient."

Hill Samuel is being restructured into a fee-earning investment bank, but Hugh Freedburg, its chief executive, said any recovery would be gradual. "Our business has a long sales cycle," he said. During the half year the bank shed almost £800 million in low yielding assets.

The retail bank continued to suffer heavy provisions on Mortgage Express, the home loan portfolio it is trying to close. During the year the bank sold 900 houses at a loss of £30 million, or more than £33,000 a house. Despite this, the bank has 6,200 borrowers in serious arrears. This forced it to make additional mortgage provisions of £37 million.

Peter Ellwood, head of the retail bank, said it would be years before TSB could free itself from the Mortgage Express portfolio.

TSB is placing renewed emphasis on customer service and wrote to its 7 million customers, promising its higher interest deposits, at the cost of its own profitability. "The person who supplies the best service in banking will win," said Sir Nicholas.

Analysts, however, criticised the results, particularly income, which grew only £3 million to £921 million. "TSB is operating in a very difficult environment but they do not seem to have any answers about increasing income. They have run up against a brick wall and the only increase in profits will come from a fall in bad debts," said Alison Deuchars, a banking analyst.

There are new competitors entering the market place almost every day. There are customers clamouring for alternative supplies. I will use my powers to issue directions to British Gas to set fair terms for companies wishing to use the pipeline system now."

Sir James added that he would "not allow the competitive build-up we have seen since the turn of the year to stagnate on the whim of British Gas".

The threat to impose prices is the latest in a long-running, acrimonious war between the head of Ofgas and British Gas. Last month, public attacks by Sir James culminated in British Gas unveiling a 3 per cent cut in charges for all 18 million domestic customers with effect from July 1.

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Goodison: analysis

Watchdog to act on gas pipelines

ROSS TIEMAN, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

SIR James McKinnon, the gas industry watchdog, has promised to intervene yet again to promote competition, accusing British Gas of using "filibustering tactics" to hold back rivals.

Sir James, the Ofgas chief, said he would set charges for competitors that wanted to use British Gas's transmission system. Talks about a new pricing mechanism, to take effect from October, had drawn a blank. He said British Gas had failed to provide information necessary to meet the timetable for equal access to pipelines, as laid down in an agreement with the Office of Fair Trading this year.

In that deal, struck under threat of a referral to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission, the former state gas monopoly agreed a package of measures designed to have its share of industrial markets to 40 per cent by 1995. But loose ends were to be tidied up in talks between the company, the OFT and Ofgas.

British Gas rejected Sir James's accusation of heel-dragging. The company said it was "on target" to meet the timetable agreed with the OFT and "intends to continue doing so". A spokesman said the release of gas to 32 competitors in accordance with undertakings to the OFT, announced two weeks ago, was evidence of the company's good intent.

According to a "competition timetable" provided by the company, British Gas has until September 1 to publish details of the pricing system

for transporting gas. The group is still in the process of divorcing its transportation business, the core of its activities, from its gas sales operations. The separation involves reorganising staff, assets and accounting systems. The new, separate transportation business has to be up and running by January 1.

But Sir James said gas competitors needed detailed information and firm prices to enable them to take early advantage of liberalisation.

He told a London conference organised by the Major Energy Users Council: "British Gas must understand that it cannot continue to be secretive and unco-operative, not only with Ofgas, but also with players in the market. If the new transmission regime is to be fair and open."

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Confident BPB pegs dividend

BY MICHAEL TATE, CITY EDITOR

BPB Industries, supplier of more than half of Europe's plasterboard, has held its dividend despite more than halved profits, because it sees growing evidence of "sustained pricing recovery".

BPB has been in a ferocious price war in the European plasterboard market for the past five years, a war that Alan Turner, the chairman, believes costs the industry £200 million last year alone.

Operating profits for the year ended last March tumbled from £83.6 million to £67.6 million, with lower prices responsible for £32.5 million of the setback. Volume reduction accounted for a

further £6.5 million. Pre-tax profits slumped from a restated £77.8 million to £37.8 million, and earnings per share exactly halved, from 12p to 6p. The dividend is held at 11.25p with payment of a 7.25p final, reflecting the board's "confidence in the group's recovery prospects".

Profits would have been lower still but for £25 million of savings achieved during the year, Mr Turner said. But he predicted that profitability would grow "markedly" this year, even if prices of plasterboard only held at their current levels, following the recovery that has taken place in the first quarter of the

group's current financial year. "There is at last an apparent end to the destructive price war," Mr Turner said. He claimed that BPB's leadership of the European market had been maintained. It is estimated to have about 54 per cent. Plaster board would continue to penetrate in the major European markets, he said. "This is the only major building material with such growth potential". There was a positive cash flow for the year, of £2.5 million, against a negative flow of £199.3 million previously. Borrowings were down by £114 million.

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Brown Shipley worth £1 after 182 years

BY JON ASHWORTH

BROWN Shipley, one of the City's oldest merchant banks, has been sold to a Luxembourg bank for the princely sum of £1.

The sale removes from City control one of the best-known names in British merchant banking. Sir Edward Heath once worked there, and Montagu Norman, a partner before the Great War, went on to become the longest-serving Governor of the Bank of England, holding the post from 1920 to 1944.

Brown Shipley was founded in 1810 by Alexander Brown, an American. Some City wags suggest that even £1 is too much for the banking arm of a group which yesterday unveiled a loss before tax of £27.1 million in the year to the end of March, compared with a loss of £3.7 million in



Norman: partner

the previous period. Brown Shipley Holdings has set aside £29.7 million in provisions against doubtful loans and losses on lease terminations.

Hopefully Kredietbank, the Luxembourg banking group which has held a stake in

Brown Shipley since June 1986 and took the balance yesterday, has done its sums properly.

For its £1, Kredietbank inherits £14.7 million in provisions against bad and doubtful loans and up to another £60 million in loans, half the total book, which may or may not be repaid. It inherits Founders Court, the bank's City headquarters, which has seen its value marked down from £20.8 million to £11 million in the wake of the slump in property prices.

The sale of the bank is just the beginning. Brown Shipley Holdings is also selling its insurance operations, its leasing subsidiary and its offshore divisions, leaving it to focus on stockbroking and fund management.

The insurance arm is being sold for £33 million to



Dr Ann Robinson: 'EC wrong to make such laws'



Gillian Shephard: Failed to block directive

Work time failure angers IoD

BY OUR INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Institute of Directors has launched a fierce attack on the failure of Gillian Shephard, the employment secretary, to block the European Community's working time directive. Ann Robinson, head of the IoD Policy Unit, said the deal "opens the door for the many other social and employment measures which the EC has lined up." Britain should have challenged the package in the European Court.

"We have conceded to the EC the right to lay down Britain's labour laws," she said. "Europe has no business making laws in this field."

Dr Robinson's criticism opens an unfamiliar divide between the IoD and government, and isolates it from other leading business organisations which took a more complimentary stance.

Sir John Banham, the director general of the Confederation of British Industry, said concessions won by Mrs Shephard had effectively prevented any significant adverse impact on British business. Employers would still be able to agree appropriate shift patterns.

Enquiry launched on mobile phones

BY OUR INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

AN ENQUIRY into allegations of anti-competitive practices by Britain's two biggest mobile telephone networks has been launched by Ofel, the regulator. In his first public move since taking over from Sir Bryan Carsberg two weeks ago, Bill Wigglesworth, the acting director general, said he was investigating a series of complaints from Talkland International, the French-owned group.

Talkland is among the six largest service-providers, companies that buy airtime from the network operators to provide mobile telephone services for businessmen and domestic customers. Under Britain's telecommunications regime, the two cellular network operators, Cellnet, owned by BT and Securicor Group, and Vodafone, owned by Securicor, are barred from selling their services direct to the public. Vodafone, BT and Securicor, however, all have their own service-providing subsidiaries.

Mr Wigglesworth said the Talkland complaint concerned "alleged cross-subsidy of, and undue preference to, the 'died' service providers owned by companies or groups operating cellular mobile telephone networks."

Talkland had told Ofel the practices "seriously restricted the ability of independent service providers to compete". The complaint, described by Ofel as "wide-ranging", also alleged abuse of monopoly power by the mobile network operators, resulting in the "imposition" of unfair contract terms on the service providers.

The allegations were firmly rejected by the owners of the two mobile telephone networks. A BT spokeswoman said: "We don't consider ourselves or our companies to have acted improperly." At Cellnet, a spokesman said: "We welcome the investigation authorised by the director general."

He said Cellnet had already responded to a request for information from Ofel received on Monday.

South Wales Electricity cuts all prices

BY GEORGE SIVELL

SOUTH Wales Electricity yesterday announced that it was cutting prices for all consumers. It is the first regional electricity company to do so since privatisation.

From October 1, customers will enjoy a 2 per cent cut in tariffs if they pay by monthly direct debit or by token meters, and one of 0.5 per cent if they pay by other means. The effect will show in bills sent out from January 1. In April, tariffs rose by an average of 1.9 per cent. South Wales estimates that the price cuts will cost it £4 million

in pre-tax profits over a full year.

In March, London Electricity cut prices by 0.5 per cent for customers paying by direct debit; it raised them by 4 per cent for others, however. Tim Eggar, Minister for Energy, welcomed the South Wales cuts as proof that privatisation benefits consumers.

South Wales announced the price cuts as it revealed pre-tax profits up 28 per cent to £72.5 million in the year to March 31 and a rise in the dividend of 14.8 per cent to 19.4p on a pro-forma basis.

Southern Electric also re-

ported results yesterday. Pre-tax profits were up by 19.1 per cent to £166.3 million in the year to March 31; the dividend was increased by 15.3 per cent to 10.66p on a pro-forma basis, the biggest increase in the present round of electricity company results.

South Wales achieved its profits rise despite charging £11.2 million of restructuring costs — associated with job cuts and the sale of the company's retail business — to operating profits.

South Wales shares rose 3p on the day to close at 369p. Southern Electric an-

nounced that Duncan Ross, its chairman, will retire in May next year. Geoffrey Wilson, a non-executive director of Southern since privatisation, will become part-time chairman. Henry Casley, presently managing director, takes over as chief executive.

The group charged an exceptional £8.5 million for reorganisation and rationalisation of its retailing and contracting activities.

Southern shares rose 1p on the day to 302p.

Tempus, page 26



MFI FURNITURE GROUP PLC

Shares in MFI, the UK's leading furniture retailer and manufacturer, are to be offered to the public next month in connection with MFI's proposed flotation on the London Stock Exchange.

The offer price is expected to be announced on Thursday 2 July 1992.

PUBLIC APPLICATION FORMS
WILL APPEAR IN THIS NEWSPAPER.

Issued by County NatWest Limited, a member of the Securities and Futures Authority. County NatWest Limited is acting as financial adviser to MFI in connection with its proposed flotation and for no-one else. County NatWest Limited will not be responsible to anyone other than MFI for providing the information or for providing advice in relation to the flotation of MFI. Before deciding whether to apply for shares, you should consider whether shares are a suitable investment for you. Your value can go down as well as up. If you need advice, you should consult an appropriate professional adviser.

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

FT-SE VOLUMES										MAJOR INDICES										LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES										MONEY MARKETS									
Abney Natl 1,000										New York (midday):										Period										Exchange index compared with 1985 was up at 93.3									
Aldi-Yonks 1,000										Dow Jones 3,300.60 (+9.90)										Sep 92 238.80 260.00 258.40 260.30 86.91										(day's range 93.2-93.3).									
Anglian W 669										S&P Composite 404.86 (+1.03)										Dec 92 254.10 264.10 264.12 265.12 90.30																			
Anglo Afr 2,200										Tokyo:										Sep 92 90.19 90.21 90.16 90.17 78.11																			
Afrco Wigan 273										Nikkei Ave 16143.72 (+390.05)										Dec 92 90.82 90.88 90.84 90.81 76.07																			
Asi Foods 270										Hong Kong:										Mar 93 90.87 90.88 90.86 90.87 66.60																			
BAAT 512										0078.69 (+113.48)										Three Mth Eurodollar																			
BAK Under 9,000										Amsterdam:										Dec 92 95.96 96.01 95.96 96.01 111.7																			
BAC 3,400										124.74 (+0.1)										Dec 92 95.46 95.53 95.46 95.50 111.7																			
BDF 1,000																																							

Portfolio

From your Portfolio Platinum card check your daily share price movements on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the daily prize money. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

Company	Group	Price	Div	Yld	P/E
1 Shell	Oil & Gas	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
2 Br Vira	Industrial	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
3 Severn Trent	Water	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
4 Tiscali	Telecom	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
5 Rank Group	Industrial	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
6 Blue Circle	Building	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
7 Fine Art Dev	Drugs	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
8 Abbey Nat	Banking	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
9 Broomfield	Industrial	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
10 Enterprise	Oil & Gas	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
11 Laird	Industrial	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
12 Cable Wireless	Telecom	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
13 Barclays	Banking	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
14 Mersey	Building	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
15 Amec	Industrial	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
16 North West	Water	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
17 BTR	Industrial	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
18 Yorkshire W	Water	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
19 Yorkshire C	Chemicals	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
20 Industrial	Industrial	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
21 Kain Foods	Food	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
22 South West	Water	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
23 Lee (Arund)	Industrial	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
24 Sobra Water	Water	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
25 Pecton Food	Food	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
26 Ryl Bk Soc	Banking	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
27 Morgan Chem	Industrial	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
28 Gr Portland	Property	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
29 Wimpsey G	Building	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
30 Thames Water	Water	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
31 Br Airways	Transport	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
32 Dinosys Grp	Drugs	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
33 First Nat Fin	Banking	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
34 Reed Int	Newspaper	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
35 Br Petroleum	Oil & Gas	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
36 Farnell	Industrial	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
37 Waltham	Water	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
38 Hichon	Chemicals	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
39 Warrick	Industrial	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
40 Warrick	Industrial	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
41 MEPC	Property	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
42 Nat West	Banking	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
43 Sainsbury J	Food	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1

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17 BTR	Industrial	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
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42 Nat West	Banking	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
43 Sainsbury J	Food	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1

There were no valid claims for the Portfolio Platinum prize yesterday. The £2,000 will be added to today's competition.

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Strong rises

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began June 15. Dealings end today. Settlement day June 29. Settlement day July 6. Forward margins are permitted on two previous business days. Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

High	Low	Company	Price	Div	Yld	P/E
148.5	148.5	Shell	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
148.5	148.5	Br Vira	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
148.5	148.5	Severn Trent	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
148.5	148.5	Tiscali	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
148.5	148.5	Rank Group	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
148.5	148.5	Blue Circle	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
148.5	148.5	Fine Art Dev	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
148.5	148.5	Abbey Nat	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
148.5	148.5	Broomfield	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
148.5	148.5	Enterprise	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
148.5	148.5	Laird	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
148.5	148.5	Cable Wireless	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
148.5	148.5	Barclays	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
148.5	148.5	Mersey	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
148.5	148.5	Amec	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
148.5	148.5	North West	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
148.5	148.5	BTR	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
148.5	148.5	Yorkshire W	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
148.5	148.5	Yorkshire C	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
148.5	148.5	Industrial	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
148.5	148.5	Kain Foods	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
148.5	148.5	South West	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
148.5	148.5	Lee (Arund)	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
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148.5	148.5	Waltham	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
148.5	148.5	Hichon	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
148.5	148.5	Warrick	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
148.5	148.5	Warrick	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
148.5	148.5	MEPC	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
148.5	148.5	Nat West	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1
148.5	148.5	Sainsbury J	148.5	1.0	6.7	22.1

High	Low	Company	SP	Div	Yld	P/E
282	190	Turnstone	282	...	5.3	24 1/4
236	176	Peabody	160	...	11.7	36.3

High	Low	Company	SP	Div	Yld	P/E
140	33	Citywide	48	..	2.5	6.9
140	33	Charmers	140

High	Low	Company	SP	Div	Yld	P/E
316	297	Saxon Health	283.1	..	5.1	2.4

INFOTECH TIMES

Danger lurks in the database

When incorrect data is entered, companies can be damaged, writes
Chris Partridge

A typical database is so defective that it has limited use for management information, some experts believe. Most databases suit the purpose for which they were designed. For example, they can store orders, keep tabs on inventories or maintain the payroll, because most errors can be corrected manually.

Increasingly, however, databases are seen as a mine of information that can be analysed to predict trends or tunnelled into for new sales prospects.

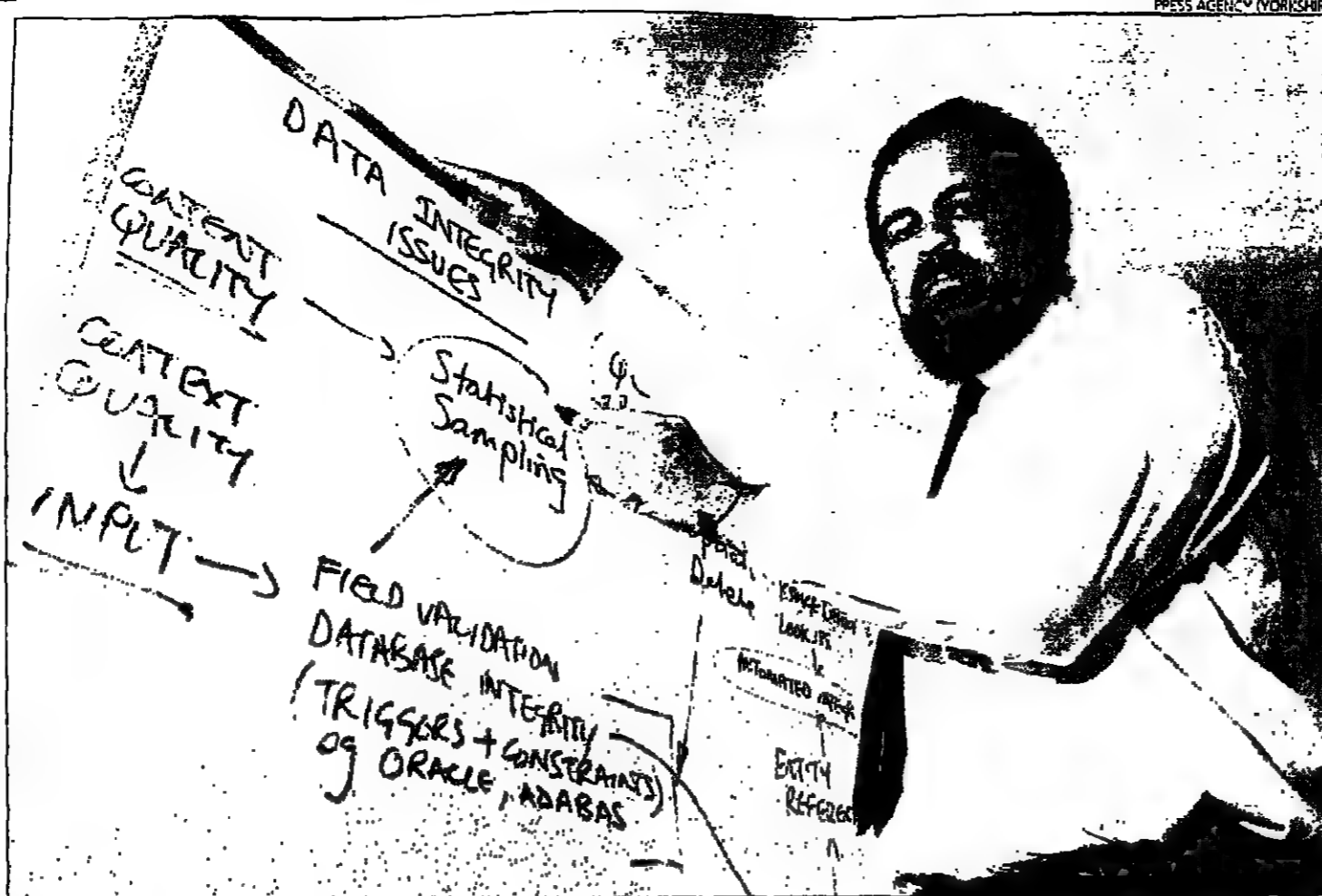
Glossy software packages use mathematical processes to trawl the database, extract the desired trends, and transform them into elegant, easily understood colour pie charts. "I have rarely seen anybody question the accuracy of the data because it comes out of a magic box," says Martin Butler, a database consultant and the author of several newsletters in the field.

Researchers at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) have surveyed the heads of information technology at 50 large American companies and found half of them believe their databases were less than 95 per cent accurate and were wary of relying on the information for strategic decisions.

"I would say 95 per cent is a gross understatement," says Mr Butler, who has frightening tales about incorrect information in databases. "I worked with a large retailer, whose management philosophy was that, if a computer crashes in the middle of taking an order so that the stock is not ordered up, it does not happen every five minutes and the people can always do something about it afterwards."

The main source of incorrect information is people who enter the data. Salesmen, for example, are employed to sell, and they regard data entry as a chore that they will skip if they can.

Sometimes, projects can fail because of bad data. An American subcontractor wanted to consolidate customer records from several



Expert's warning: "I have rarely seen anybody question the accuracy of data because it comes from a magic box," Martin Butler says

databases, so a £500,000 project was started to bring every customer's records into one file. The project was well advanced before programmers found that every sale was under a different customer number. The salesmen were paid commission for attracting new business, so, not unnaturally, every sale was registered as a new customer. McDonnell Douglas, the aerospace company, was listed under more than 7,000 numbers. The project had to be abandoned.

The good news is that the latest database products have basic mechanisms for looking at data as it comes in and weeding out some of the most obvious errors.

Oracle 7, for example, is the newest version of a well established American database product and has a feature called "declarative integrity" which scans incoming data for compliance with simple rules entered by the user. For

example, entries on the payroll database will have to relate to employees with a positive salary, holding a recognised job title, and reporting to a manager, who is another employee, all checked automatically.

The system ensures that vital entries are not deleted. For example, by a sales clerk trying to remove an entry for a former customer with an active after-sales account. The system also sets ranges of values for entries, so silly numerical errors such as those that send out £10 million gas bills can be excluded.

"The difference is that we have built these checks into the database," says Mike Evans, Oracle UK's marketing director. "In earlier databases, these rules had to be built into the program using the database. Every program would

have its own rules and incorrect data could still get in."

Mechanical aids to data entry should also help to clean up databases in the future, says Tony Lacy-Thompson, of the software supplier Informix. "There is a need to get data in and out as fast and as accurately as possible. Bar code readers and hand-held data entry terminals that can do the stuff on line and in real time rather than storing the data for entry later will help," he says.

If the future looks better for database accuracy, what about the vast amounts of information swirling about corporate databases that are suspect because of the unknown level of error? Two American companies have recently produced software to sift through databases and find at the most obvious rubbish. QDB Solutions was founded by Dr Mark Hansen, one of the MIT researchers responsible

for the survey, to sell software to counter the problem. QDB's Analyse program, introduced last month, uses statistical and expert system techniques to scan for errors. The program acts like a quality control manager, taking samples of data and running quality checks.

Database problems can threaten even a company's existence. Mr Butler says. A clearing bank used Big Bang, when the stock market was automated, to go into the equities market. Unfortunately, the database was not updated reliably every time a stock was traded, so it could register too many or too few shares. "They had a performance problem as well, as it took ten minutes to enter a deal," he says. "The rest of the market started trading shares while transactions were in progress, changing the price. The bank lost so much that it had to close the operation."

Olivetti puts on its bravest face

IT WAS Olivetti Week in Rome's Paleur sports stadium last week, an attempt to convince the 4,000 or so customers and others who were invited that the struggling Italian computer manufacturer is more than keeping up with the rest of the world's producers.

On show were 400 personal computers, 100 minicomputers, a mainframe and a lot of rhetoric about the advantages of buying from Olivetti.

As in much of the computer industry hit by recession, profits have vanished at Olivetti.

Last year the company recorded a loss of more than £200 million. Much of that was accounted for by restructuring costs that included getting rid of a quarter of the staff during the past two years.

The company now says this shedding of numbers puts it in a unique position against competitors still struggling to reduce their operating costs. Olivetti's uniqueness extends also to its president and chief executive, Carlo de Benedetti, who is running the company while appealing against a six-year prison sentence for his part in the fraudulent collapse of the Banco Ambrosiano.

Last week Signor de Benedetti said that what he described as the "present discontinuity" in the information technology market was due to downsizing — the use of ever smaller computers to perform tasks that used to require rooms full of equipment — and the trend towards open systems.

Olivetti is now trying to take downsizing a stage further with its latest laptop computer that weighs only 2.2lb.

The £800 Quaderno is arguably the forerunner of a new breed of portable computers half the size and weight of the present crop of A4 notebooks. The

Quaderno is a product that the company expects will be used more for jotting down notes or letters on a train, an aircraft, or in meetings, rather than number-crunching a spreadsheet. The machine is distinguished by also being able to record and play back sound held in files on the hard disc.

A quick straw poll found praise for the fact that so much, including a built-in 20-megabyte hard disc, could be packed into something so small and light.

The screen, however, is only adequate and the reduction in size has meant scaling down the keyboard to a level that slows down typing speed.

Hence many competitors are convinced that once a portable or a pocket computer gets much below A4 size, some alternative to the keyboard must be found for entering information and may not be a computer at all as we know it but more an "information appliance." This week Toshiba announced it will develop "multimedia" hand-held computers with Apple that will be able to handle video, audio, graphics and text information all in one unit.

The first product will be a device to play special multimedia compact discs that are expected to go on sale next summer for about £500.

Whatever the outcome of pocket computers and however unfair it may be, Olivetti could still have some basic problems of image to sort out.

One accountant on the aircraft to Rome, well versed in the latest computers from IBM and Compaq, put it this way: "Bit dodgy isn't it — buying an Italian computer?"

MATTHEW MAY
Infotech Portables, pages 52-54



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The videotape is about to be challenged by recordable discs

The million-times video disc

Pioneer, the Japanese electronics company is to show next month what could turn out to be the greatest innovation in video recording since Philips introduced the first video cassette recorder in 1972.

With an almost indestructible rewritable disc substituted for the tape cassette, the laser recorder is the first practical application of a technology that within five years could transform video rental and switch it from tape to disc.

The technical superiority of laser discs over tape is well established in specialised fields such as education, where they result in a better picture, superior stereo sound and, most significantly, the speed of access of individual frames, making it possible to display any one of nearly 100,000 individual images from a sin-

gle disc in less than a second. Any frozen still picture is judder-free, and because the head is not in contact with the playing medium, there is no limit to how long a still can be displayed on screen.

However, the acceptance of video discs in any wider market has been minute, because they are a "play only" medium and cannot be used for recording broadcast programmes.

Pioneer, which developed the laser disc in 1978 and marketed it with Philips, developed its first prototype of a laser disc that can record three years ago, with the Japanese telecommunications group KDD. Pioneer introduced an NTSC version for American and Japanese television companies in October, and expects to start selling a version using the European PAL system in January.

Banks of the new machines, to be shown at an exhibition in Amsterdam, will be used at the Barcelona Olympics for instant relay. These initial examples of the technology are for professional use and priced at £25,000 are out of the domestic market's reach. However, Masao Kawabata, the director of the industrial systems division (UK) of Pioneer Electric (Europe), thinks this will change as production increases.

"Such things always begin in the industrial sphere," he says. "For instance, CD-ROM is only just beginning to have an impact on the world of the home computer user."

The industry hopes there will be a cheap domestic version in less than five years. For the moment organisations such as broadcasting and security companies, using the

machine's time-lapse capability, are the prime customers. Mr Kawabata says: "Although the normal capacity of the disc is 32 minutes of playing time, if it is set to shoot one frame every 1.6 seconds, it is possible to cover 24 hours of input from a single camera on to a single disc."

Video tape can make a relatively small number of recordings. The video disc is claimed to be able to re-record up to a million times, giving it an effective working life of 20 years or more in normal use. Because the recorder has two moveable play heads, one of them doubling as a record head, it is possible to edit from one part of a disc on to another, without having to link up with a second machine.

KARL DALLAS

IBM is to go flash

IBM and Toshiba are planning an alliance to develop flash memory chips. Spurred by a new generation of portable computer products, flash memory is expected to balloon into an £800 million market by 1995 from less than a tenth of that in 1991.

Unlike dynamic random access memory (DRAM) chips, flash chips can retain the information they store even when the electrical current has been switched off.

Flash chips therefore have the potential to replace hard disc drives (HDDs) in personal computers, saving the weight of the disc drive, and, as they have no moving parts, the large batteries needed to power HDDs.

However, they are still much more expensive than HDDs and provide lower overall capacity, so they are being used mainly in battery-powered hand-held computers, where size and weight are more important.

Cutting the power
EIGHT of the largest computer manufacturers, including IBM and Apple, have signed an agreement making them charter members of the Energy Star Computers Program to encourage the development of more energy-efficient personal computers.

The scheme is organised by the US Environmental Protection Agency, and other companies that have signed up are Compaq Computer, Digital Equipment, Hewlett-Packard and Zenith Data Systems.

The voluntary agreement, formalising a plan announced last month, calls for the computer makers to develop personal computers that automatically cut their power consumption when not in use.

The agency says the power-down feature could cut computer energy consumption in half because computers are usually left on even when not in use.

3-D surgery

THREE-DIMENSIONAL glasses are moving out of horror movies and amusement parks and into the operating room, where they can provide surgeons with a clearer image of the deepest recesses of the brain.

The glasses give students and surgical assistants depth perception during brain surgery, difficult to portray with conventional video equipment. The 3-D process is identical in concept to the system used in 1950s films and comic books. Two miniature video cameras are attached to the microscope used by the surgeon, one on each side. Each camera separately captures the images that would be seen by the right and the left eye, then transmits

them through a video processor that superimposes them and projects them on to a video monitor.



Fast learner
RICOH of Japan says it has developed a computer system able to learn functions without complicated software programs. The "neurocomputer" system uses large-scale integrated chips to achieve a processing speed four times faster than that of a supercomputer and 500 times faster than that of a typical

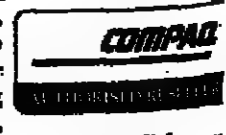
engineering workstation, the company says. Ricoh claims the system will enable electrical products, including office equipment, to recognise images, voices and objects. An experimental robot, for example, recognised a wall with ultrasonic sensors and then learnt to avoid bumping into it without being programmed.

Shopping links

SCIENTISTS at Bell Northern Research in Canada are claiming a breakthrough in the technology behind semiconductor lasers that they say will enable fibre optic telecommunications systems to be made for a fraction of today's costs. The new device emits a powerful circular column of light that improves the efficiency of coupling laser light to optical fibres. Opto-electronic transmitter modules convert electrical signals to light pulse so that digital information can be put on to optical fibres. Fibre optic links are being considered as a means of delivering advanced home services such as teleshopping.

Compaq: Why pay more?

With their biggest ever product launch, Compaq switched from premium to low-cost computer manufacturer. Five new models include clone-terminating ProLinea 386s from £550. Performance, quality and that certain Compaq je ne s'ess qu'il still features



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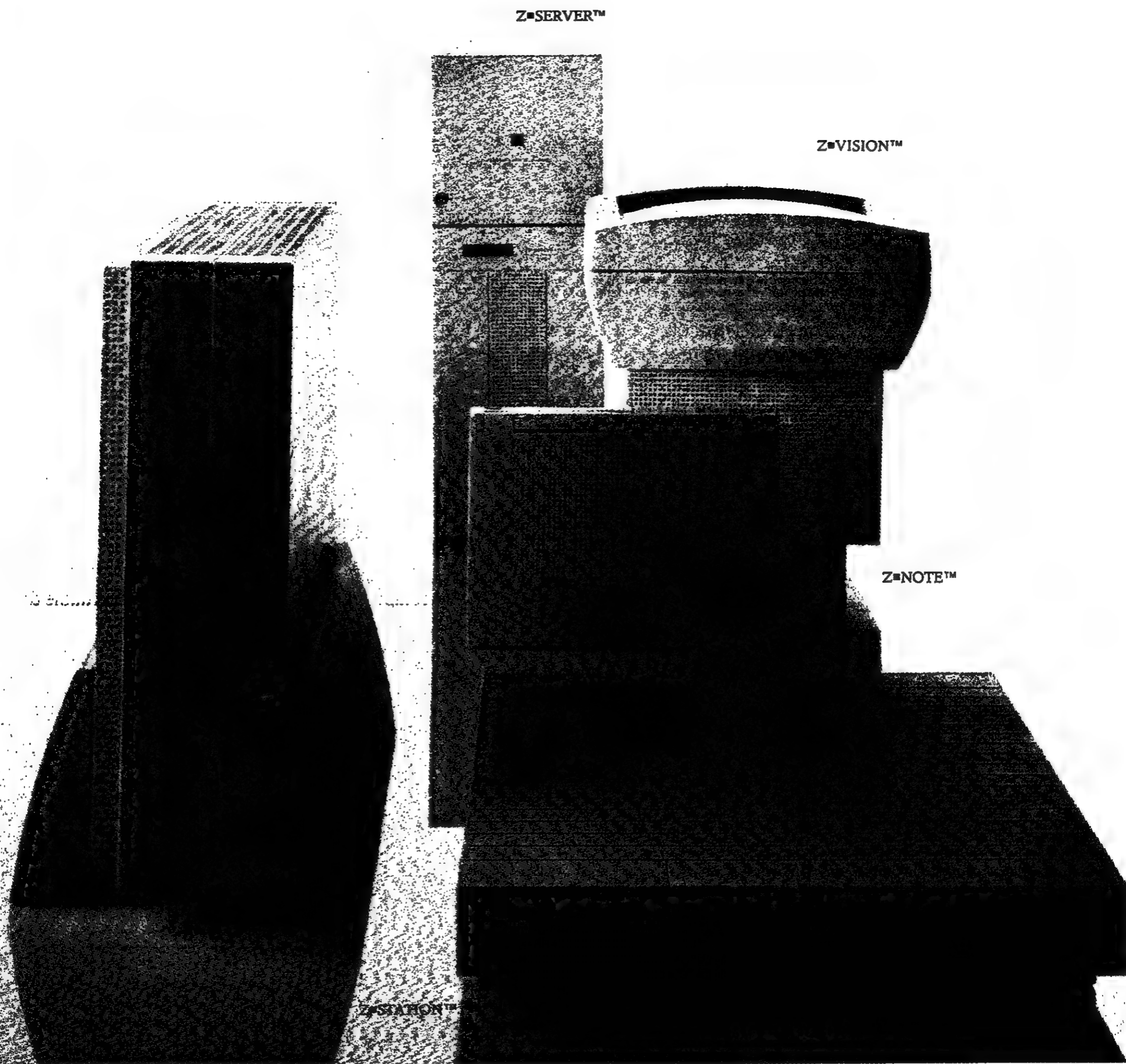
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Lapping the other runners

Most computer manufacturers are fighting for a share of the portable market, says Jane Bird

Most people have at some time been stuck in an airport lounge, train or traffic jam, thinking that if only we could get on with some work the delay would be far less frustrating. When portable computers were first introduced more than a decade ago, they were hailed as the answer to this need. But the overweight machines pioneered by Adam Osborne demanded a large compromise from users for their portability. They had fewer functions than a desktop and needed to be plugged into the mains.

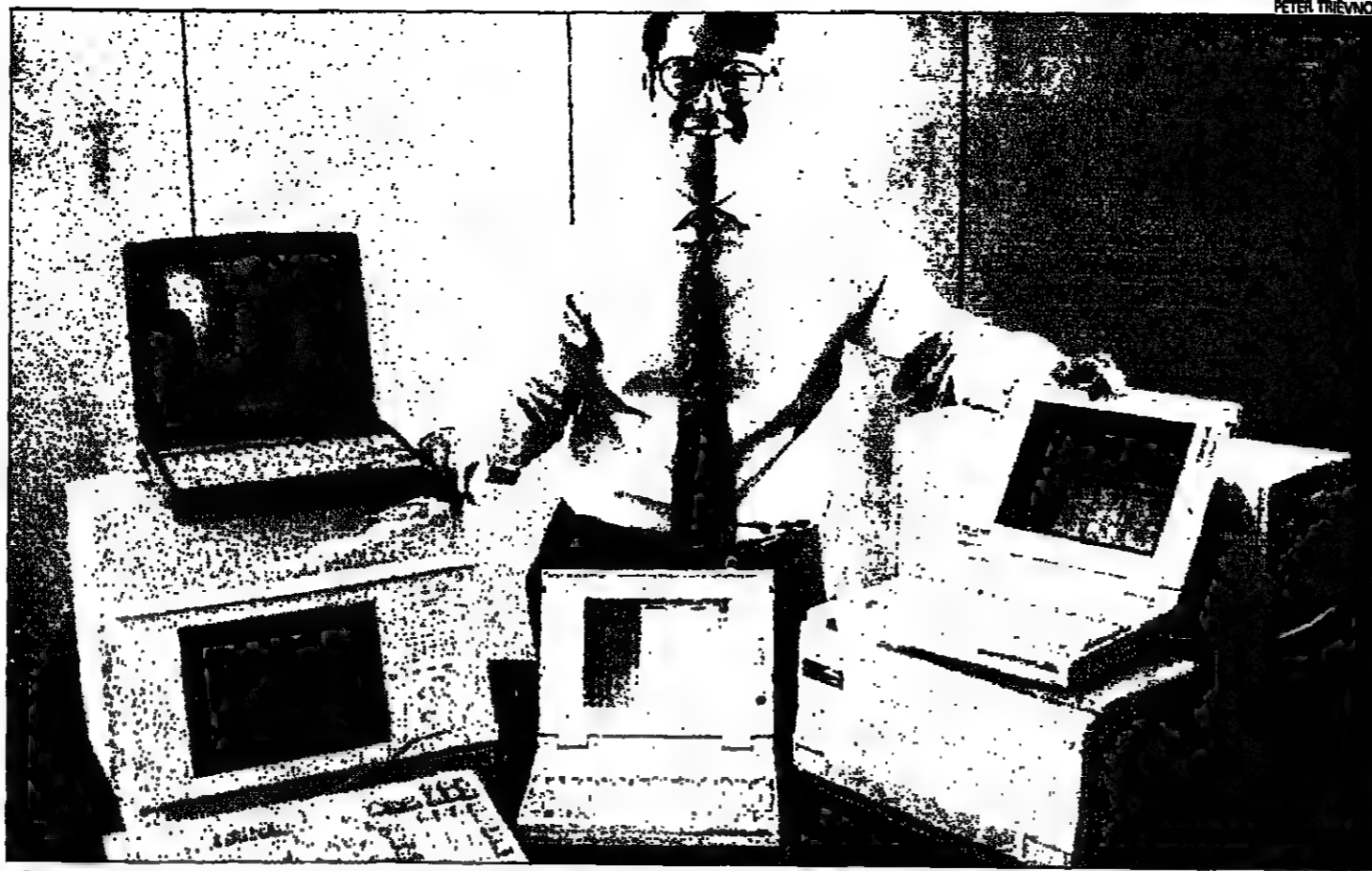
Only in the past couple of years have portables begun to match those early claims. With microprocessor speeds doubling every 18 months and rapid advances in the quality of liquid crystal displays, portables are beginning to rival their bulky desktop counterparts.

Small wonder they are the fastest growing segment of the market. According to Dataquest, portable sales grew 41 per cent in 1991, four times faster than those of PCs overall. At first they were mostly used by businesses as a replacement for desktop machines, says Lewis Schrock, portable product manager at Compaq. "But as prices have fallen, they are finding their way into homes, small businesses and students' rooms."

In the office of the 1990s fewer people are glued to their desks — making deliveries, getting orders, collecting information and servicing equipment. And the percentage is growing steadily. These workers do not just want their portables as mobile tools for word-processing, spreadsheet and database applications; they want to communicate.

Increasingly, the chief attraction of portables is their ability to link up with remote databases and company networks via telephone or radio data links. They are ideally suited to organisation-wide workgroup computing, where all users are interconnected.

Almost every computer manufacturer is fighting for a share of the



Out and about: Lewis Schrock, portable product manager at Compaq, says portables are becoming more widespread as prices fall

market, often with a wide range of models. At the top end, heavy-weight transportables provide high-quality graphics and large disc space, but they require mains power and can cost more than £10,000. Target customers include consultants or project managers who work at one site for a few weeks or months before moving to another.

For the more mobile user, the 8lb-15lb battery-powered laptop fits into a briefcase and can now offer similar functions to a desktop PC. But laptops are being eclipsed by smaller, lighter notebooks. Dataquest's latest figures indicate that by the end of last year, more than two-thirds of all portables shipped in Europe were sub-8lb notebooks.

This trend will continue even more sharply during the next few months, according to Mr Schrock. "It used to be the case that you got more performance by carrying around twice as much weight and size. But with laptops and notebooks offering similar functions, most people would prefer to carry something half the weight."

The drawback of the current generation of portables is that they cannot run for more than a few hours without the batteries needing to be recharged. One solution is to reduce the power requirement by removing screen back-lighting and replacing disc-drives with solid state memory cards. However, the card memories can be roughly four

companies such as Hinchison, Ram and Cognito.

These provide a cellular-like service for computer data which is relatively cheap because a line which would be entirely occupied by one voice can carry ten sets of computer information simultaneously.

Another answer is the "docking"

The chief attraction of portables is their ability to link up with remote databases and company networks via telephone or radio data links

times the price of the equivalent disc storage, and often take up more space.

Several companies are developing infra red or radio communications so that data can be exchanged between office machines without a wired connection. For long-distance communications, data-only radio networks are being set up by

system, available from companies such as Compaq, Unisys, NCR and Olivetti. This packages the brains of a desktop computer in a box that can be carried around and used as a portable. When you get back to the office, the box can be slotted in to a full-sized screen, keyboard and networked file-server to function like a standard desktop system.

Handheld computers win on convenience

Make it tough and trendy

Nearly 20 years ago, the computer guru Alan Kay said the perfect portable computer was something woven into your shirt. His vision conjured up an unobtrusive machine which carried all the information you would ever need.

Certainly, in a few years' time, the office computer as we think of it now will cease to exist. The seasoned professional will be liberated from the desk and be able to travel around with his office inside a personal computer, rather than the other way around.

The office is predicted to become a temporary haven for holding meetings and will be relegated to the role of plug-in point for those who need to access vital information from a corporate database or to share information with others.

Potentially, such devices could also become highly customised, not just in terms of style and colour but also functions. Users will be able to type into them, sketch with a pen, or dictate notes using voice recognition.

The image of a computing device that is fashionable to own is not that far off. The selection of such an animal could become as natural as choosing a tie or picking a dress.

Mr Kay's vision is still very much alive. Apple and Sharp have previewed a prototype, while many other manufacturers are busy preparing their own versions. But is the advent of smaller and very much lighter PCs, organisers and portable information gadgets really what users want?

The frenetic marketing activity which usually surrounds such events could easily be interpreted merely as a clever ploy to create consumer demand for a series of "lifestyle" products which really belong in the computing mainstream.

Early next year, Apple Computer and Sharp promise that the first Newton computers will go on sale. About the size of a videocassette, Newton uses a special pen and runs off a non-standard chip. It can read hand-printed notes automatically, add an appointment to a calendar, dial a number or send a fax.

Consumer product or not, compatibility with the MS-DOS operating system for personal computers is still considered by many to be a pre-requisite for buying any machine, so that software programs

designed to run on desktop computers can also run on a portable.

Early reaction was not favourable to the personal organiser that could be slipped in the pocket, yet used as a conventional computer would be. Many looked on the idea of a computerised wallet more as an executive toy than serious business aid.

This is now changing. Traditionally, most handheld devices have been used purely for the computerised equivalent of repetitive form filling. However, for those whose working day is spent gathering information on the hoof, something as small as a handheld device, and tough enough to survive the daily grind, is convenient to carry around.

For most people, the ability to keep in touch with the office, colleagues and customers is a must. Portable computers which fit inside a briefcase now provide the means of co-ordinating an expensive



Neat and tidy: an assessor using a pen-based computer

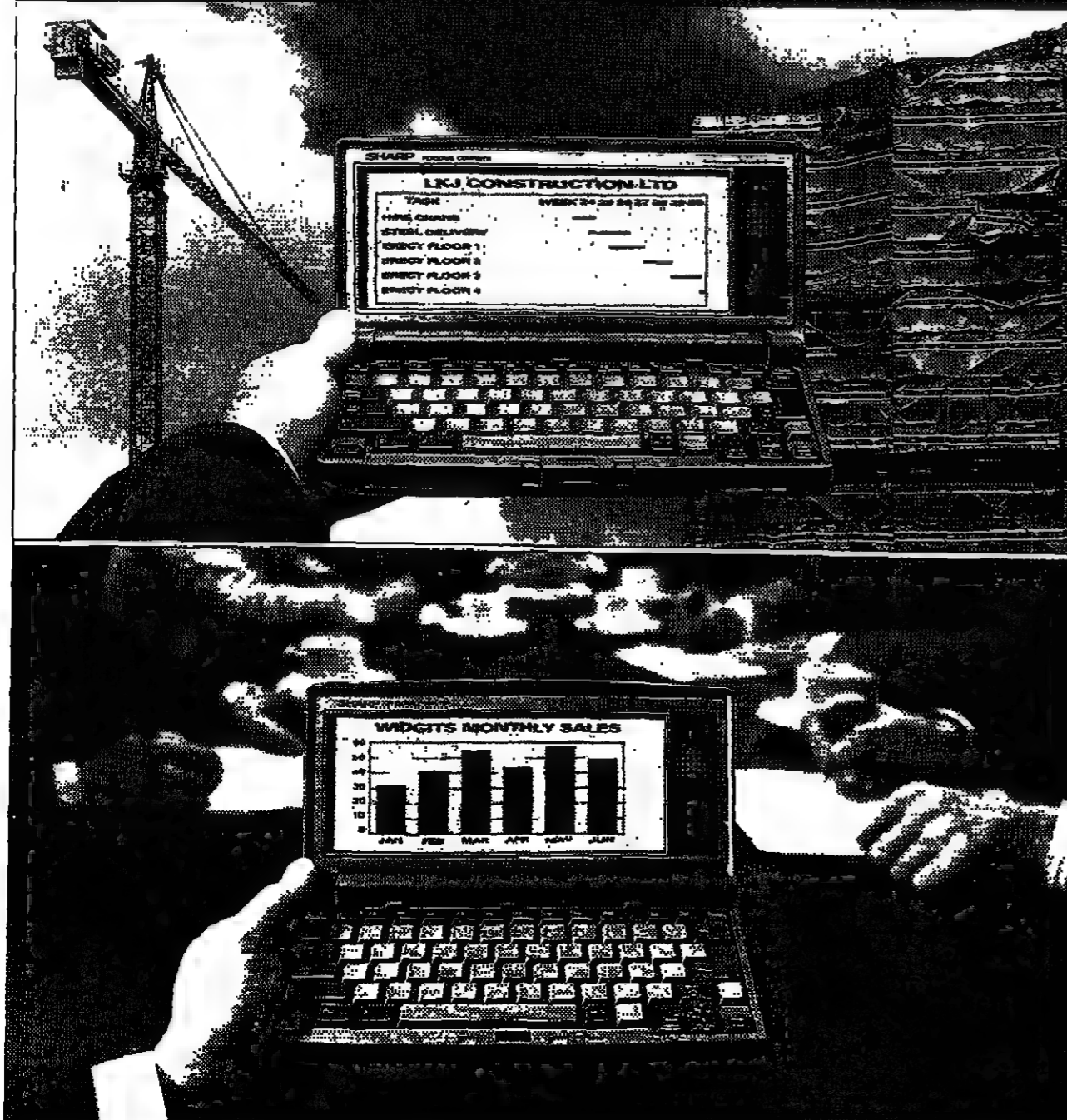
group of travelling professionals — sales representatives, auditors, journalists — where value for money is measured in terms of productivity and effectiveness.

There is no doubt that manufacturers can charge premium prices for a portable machine that is clearly able to go where a desktop could not. The initial hardware cost pales against the benefits to be derived from a more detailed understanding of how long it takes to carry out certain tasks, how time is managed and a potential overall increase in productivity.

Yet accurately gauging the user, the application, the value put on portability and, therefore, the price, has proved to be difficult.

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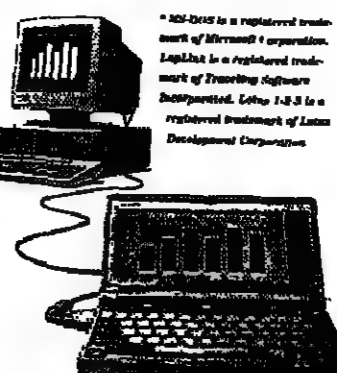
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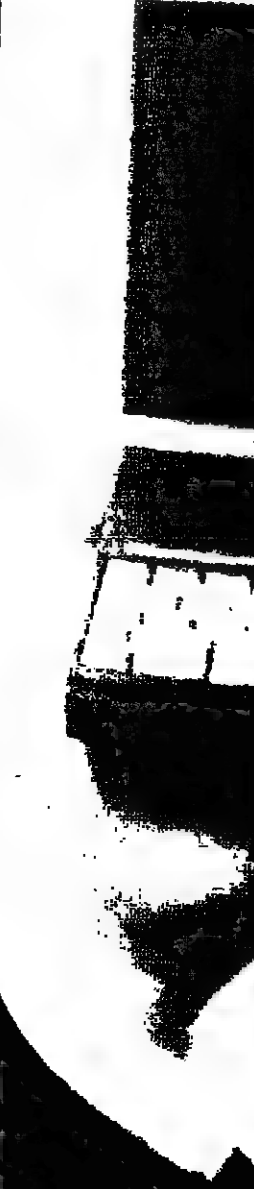
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THE TIMES FRIDAY JUNE 26 1992

INFOTECH PORTABLES 33

Portable computers are freeing workers from the office, and shrinking the world, David Guest reports

At home on the foreign desk

The successful marketing of portable computers has depended on two related premises: that PCs help to increase an individual's productivity, and that there should be no no-go areas in the quest for improved efficiency.

The suppliers of PCs thus have two targets — people whose jobs place them beyond the help of standard, desk-bound computers, and people whose efficiency should not be restricted to office hours.

Makers of PCs have homed in on these targets so successfully that a third objective is now in prospect: the wholesale replacement of desk-top PCs.

Seybold, the American market research organisation, anticipates that by 1996, sales of portables will exceed sales of desk-top computers — currently they account for a quarter of the total PC market.

From very respectable systems available for less than £1,000, the choice of models rises to market-leader Toshiba's T440SX colour-screen portable at £5,500. There is a corresponding variety in the uses to which portables are put, and in the types of people who use them.

Andrew Stephens, product manager of Zenith Data Systems (ZDS), another portable pioneer, says: "In the past, we sold mainly to people for whom budget wasn't an issue: they could afford a portable and desperately needed one."

"Now, the bulk of our sales are in what might be called field service automation — orders in the fifties or hundreds from organisations whose field sales people were outside the system and they are trying to bring them in." Mr Stephens says that companies in the financial services sector are particularly active in this form of automation.

Nick Hall, Toshiba's marketing manager, agrees, but points to another trend — the adoption of PCs by blue-collar workers, who use the computers primarily as data-recording devices.

Where portables may previously have been regarded as a status symbol or even as an executive toy, they are now viewed more objectively and critically by the companies that buy them in quantity.

The Press Association (PA), for example, refused to be carried away by the technologists' fervour for processor speed when it was evaluating the options. Reasoning that a journalist's main requirement was for a straightforward word processing program and a means of filing copy, it selected a Toshiba portable with a relatively mature processor and an on-board modem. PA now has more than 100 such portables.



issued to reporters and used around the world. During its evaluation of 18 systems, PA found that a portable computer with the means of electronically transmitting material could pay for itself in three weeks.

"They [the manufacturers] will try to amaze you with 386 and 486 processors and colour, but it's all irrelevant to us," says Jon Churchman, systems editor at PA. "All the guy in the field wants is to write some words and get them to us."

The problems PA has encountered with portables, he adds, rarely have anything to do with PC technology. Mr Churchman cites the tendency of hotels to hide the telephone socket behind the bed headboard and the infinite variety of national telephone connections, as well as the questions of weight, battery life and telecommunications transmission speed.

Not surprisingly, the suppliers prefer to distance themselves from Mr Churchman's observations on processor types and colour. The Intel 486, currently the most finely

tuned PC engine available, will make a substantial impact on the portable market, Mr Hall says. "It has significant advantages in terms of power management, meaning that it might run five times as fast but consume less power."

Mr Stephens, of ZDS, suggests

"Then you tend to be more concerned about battery life and communications."

He says that when the portable is going to be used mainly on a desk in an office, other factors will come into play. People who are accustomed to the familiar, desk-top type

Seybold, the American market research organisation, anticipates that by 1996 sales of portables will exceed sales of desk-top computers

that there are broadly two types of portable PC user. The difference is one of emphasis — there are people who need a computer on their desk, and occasionally need to carry it with them, and there are those whose primary requirement is for a portable.

"There will be less emphasis on processor speed if your use of a system is mainly portable," he says.

of PC may be reluctant to compromise. For portables to replace desk-top PCs in large numbers "they will need colour screens at lower prices", he says.

Two ways of rendering colour on a portable have emerged, one of which — represented by Toshiba's TFT technology — is significantly more expensive.

But Mr Hall says that the

Garner Group, a respected American consultancy, is advising clients to buy this type of technology when the price differential comes down to £1,000 (£550).

Colour considerations may be more relevant to the IBM style of PC than to the Apple alternative, where colour is a less well-established feature of desk-top computers. Apple's portables, the Powerbook range, are all monochrome.

According to Apple's figures, 96 per cent of Powerbook buyers have used a personal computer of one sort or another before. The figures do not distinguish between Powerbooks as replacements or second computers, but computing folklore suggests that the Apple factor would promote the Powerbook to first place in the favour of a user with two machines.

Apple's statistics identify one anomaly in the general enthusiasm for portables. Apparently, only one in every ten users of its Powerbook range is a woman.

The palm goes to notebooks

Miniaturisation could take computers out of the lap and into the pocket

Advances in miniaturisation, matched by increases in processing power and improvements in screen quality, have made today's portable computers one of the few booming areas in an otherwise dormant computer industry.

Tough competition from suppliers of cheap computers from the Far East and the demands of an increasingly price-sensitive market, have forced a number of well-known computer manufacturers to cut prices, improve features and re-evaluate their understanding of who their target customer is.

For example, IBM, through a wholly owned subsidiary, is spending £8 million on a "lifestyle" advertising campaign to promote its new Ambra range, which includes the £1,450 Trekta notebook.

Dell Computer has announced a lightweight (6lb) notebook, the NL25, which will cost £1,580 when it goes on sale in Britain at the end of this month while, last week, Compaq announced its first notebook computer to cost less than a £1,000.

The continuing improvement in the performance and portability of notebook computers has made the notebook class of machine the biggest growth area at the moment for the computer manufacturers. According to Romtec, the research company, the market for such battery-driven machines is forecast to have grown from 14 per cent in 1991 to 22 per cent in 1995.

Notebooks are roughly the size of an A4 notepad and, at 4lb to 7lb, slightly lighter than the laptop cousins they are replacing. Such opportunities have also spawned innovation as traditional desktop computer suppliers try to make sure they are not left behind if PC customers go largely portable.

Pocket-sized computers, or palmtops, have been undergoing a revival in recent months. They provide the means for jotting down ideas, taking brief notes at meetings and calling up basic information from the equivalent of an address book or calendar.

Their evolution from the humble calculator or data capture device is now a matter of ancient computer history, and a number of manufacturers, including Sharp and Psion, have now turned their creations

into powerful "mini" computing machines.

Sharp's PC3000 palmtop, for example, the result of a joint venture between Sharp and DLP, a British company, supports the sort of software applications the computer customer would expect to run on a desktop system.

The computer screen is sufficiently wide to run a spreadsheet, and the miniature machine has a keyboard just large enough to allow a three-fingered wonder to manipulate a word processing program.

Well-known for its Organiser, introduced in the early 1980s, Psion's Series 3 pocket-sized computer also uses an effective graphical user interface, where icons represent the tasks available.

The next wave of machines, predicted for success are pocket computers which recognise handwriting, based on a belief that apart from specialised uses there are also millions of people

wanting now, simplified ways of interacting with a computer, thus making the process less daunting for non-technical professional operators.

Potentially, the take-up for such "penpad" systems is huge, but these are still early days and the market is split in two halves — those who use the devices for data entry and keyboard-shy executives who feel uncomfortable with conventional computers.

Unfortunately, though, the appearance of more and more sophisticated portable computer models will only serve to highlight a time bomb waiting to go off — security. An all-too-often overlooked aspect of modern computing, the information we hold in computerised form is usually more valuable than the computer itself.

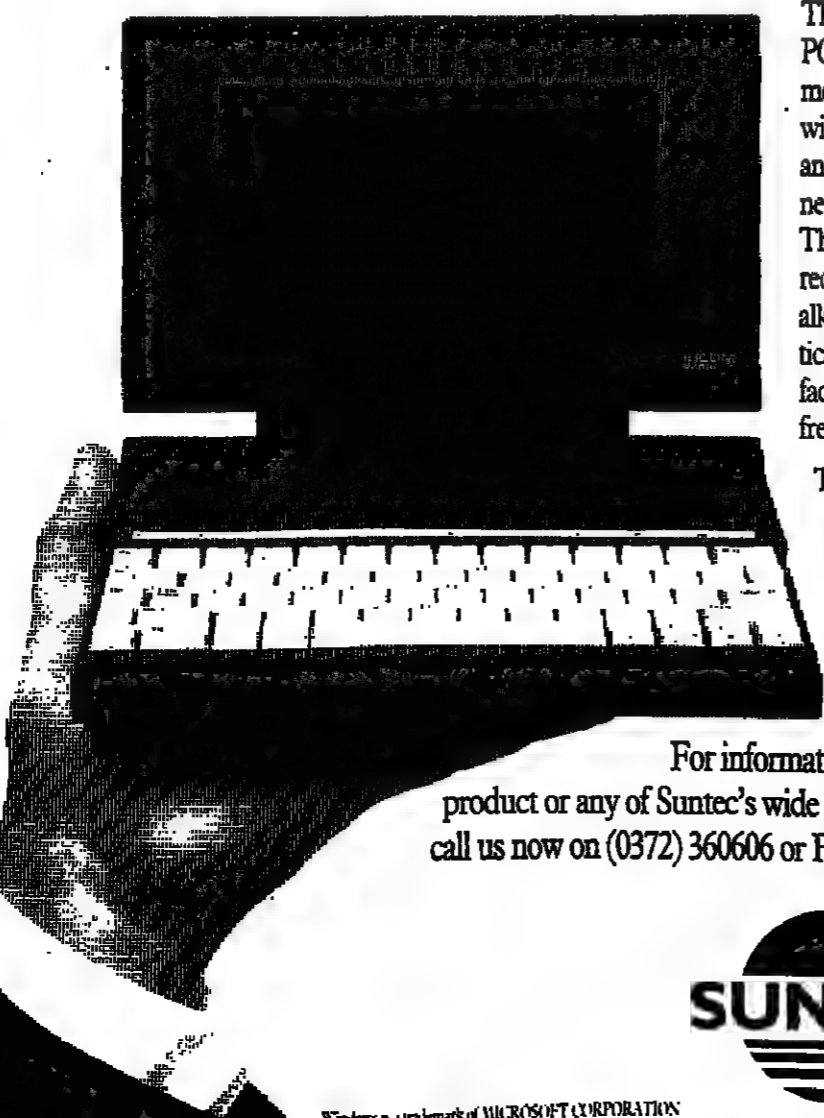
The highly publicised theft of a portable PC early last year from the back seat of a car may have gone unnoticed, had it not contained vital military secrets pertaining to the Gulf war.

Companies that rely increasingly on portables for their business are only just beginning to wake up to the risks involved if they allow staff to take valuable corporate information out of a secure office environment.

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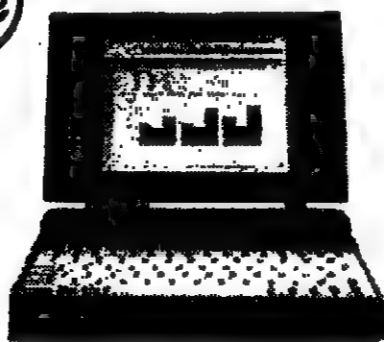
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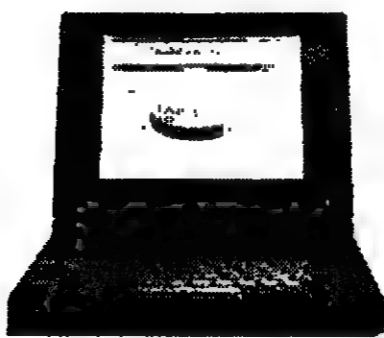


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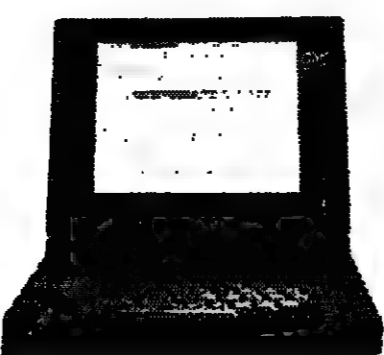
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No longer treading water

Thames Water is to use more than 1,000 hand-held computers to reduce its costs, Jane Bird says

Each day staff at Thames Water tour the company's reservoirs, effluent outlets and customer taps collecting hundreds of samples in small bottles. Privatisation has created a huge increase in the burden of water quality checking — Thames Water now processes two million samples a year.

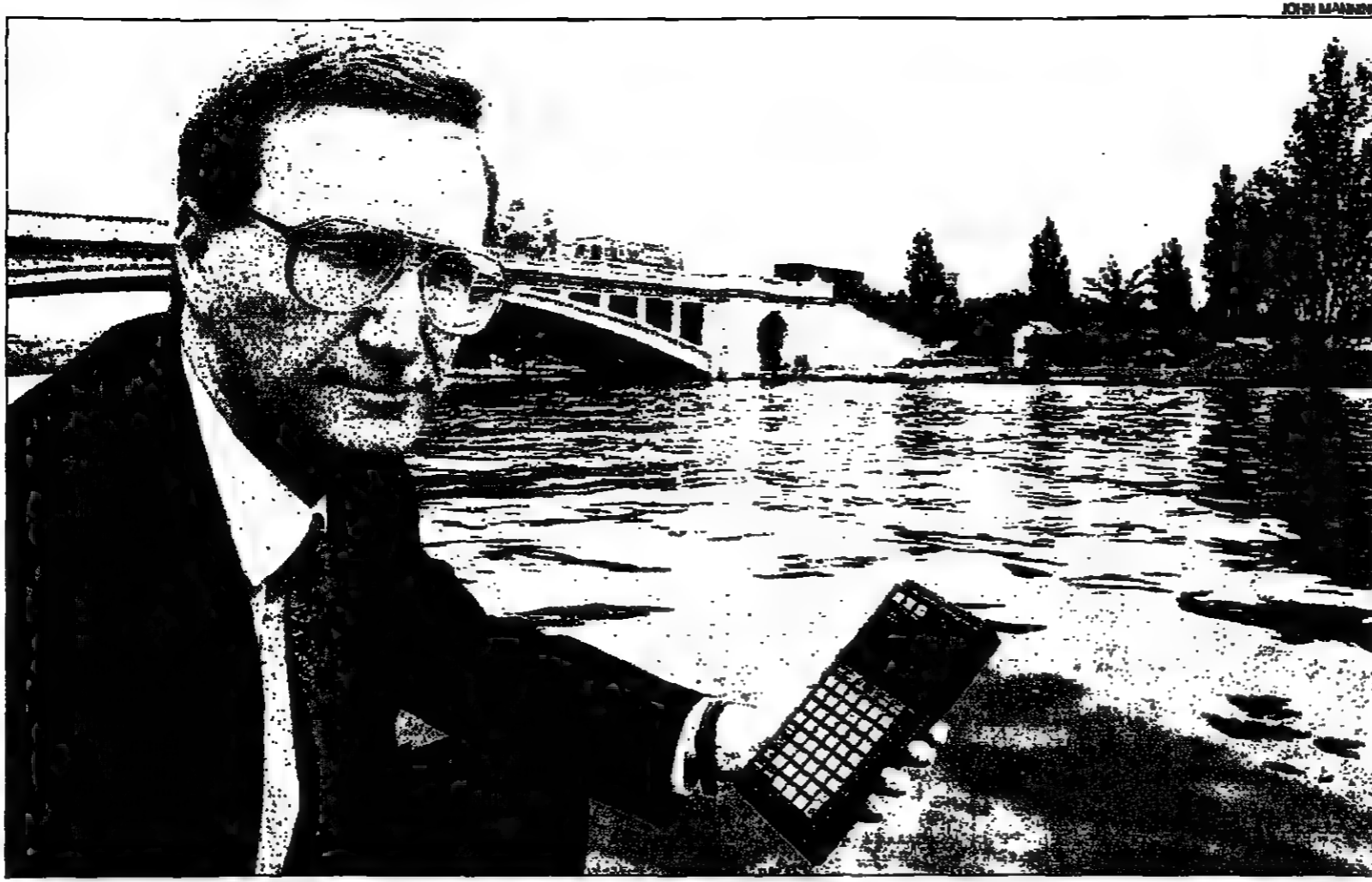
This is a logistical nightmare. Sampling points extend across the region from the Cotswolds to the Thames estuary. At each site, samplers must note details such as date, time and ambient temperature.

In the past, this information has been written on a piece of paper at the site attached to the bottle with an elastic band. By the time the bottles got back to the labs, many were useless because the paper had been lost or become illegible by being wet or torn.

Computers are coming to the rescue. In a development programme due to be implemented across the company at the end of the year, sampling staff will use bar-code labels to identify bottles, and type data in to hand-held portable computers on location.

Back at the laboratory, the data will be downloaded and accurately matched to its bottle thanks to the bar-code label. Failure rates are expected to plunge. Nor will the portables be restricted to collecting data, in future they will display road-maps guiding each sampler on the optimum route between locations.

The computerised sampling is part of a portable computing project at Thames, encompassing job-scheduling, meter-reading, warehousing, and maintenance. The company is buying 1,200 machines manufactured by London-based Psion, for about £1 million.



Forward planning: Mike Ribbins, the director of management systems at Thames Water, with a hand-held computer on the river at Reading

Mike Ribbins, director of management systems at Thames, expects a payback of £500,000 in the first year, rising to an annual £1 million within five years.

"We looked at every possible way of avoiding staff coming in to the depot by putting a computer in their hands," Mr Ribbins says. One clear opportunity was in job-scheduling. Mainframe systems were already under development for planning staff assignments. It seemed obvious to look at distributing the job schedules directly on to mobile computers.

"A meter-reader could have collected data from 50 meters in the time it would take him to come in one morning and collect his job schedule. How much better if we could send him the schedule before he left home," says Mr Ribbins. The portables should also

make it easier to alter schedules during the day. "We often had the problem where if there was a major leak in the high street, members of the public would call several depots and two or three engineering teams might arrive to fix it. This did not only waste engineering resources, it also created dissatisfied customers abandoned by the engineers in their rush to deal with the emergency."

Since a job-management system went live in the middle of last year, Thames has been able to ensure that if one team is called to an emergency, its appointments are covered by other teams operating in the area so that customers are not abandoned.

Managers who want to know whether a job has been done will be able to have their questions answered at the touch of a button by calling up

the job-management system. Meter-reading is another top priority because the faster the data is gathered the more quickly bills can be sent out

Meter-reading is a priority because the faster the data is gathered, the quicker bills can be sent out

and revenue raised. Previously, meter data has been collected on paper and typed manually in to a computer terminal.

This is not only slow, expensive and labour intensive, it also provides an opportunity

for errors. By July next year, meter-readers will feed all meter data directly into portables on their rounds. At the end of the day, they will transfer the data to the central computer by phone, so that bills can immediately be generated.

The portables will also play a role in Thames' move to reduce its 23 warehouses to one central storage facility — a move that should reduce inventory from £17 million to £5 million. Instead of getting staff to collect parts, the plan is to distribute parts to the places where they are needed. Engineers will be able to use the portables to place orders for precisely what they want, where and when.

Another application is maintenance. "We don't wait until disaster strikes, we operate an ongoing programme of maintenance and inspection," Mr Ribbins says. With 24 reservoirs, 124 water treatment works, 82,000 kilometres of sewers and 398 sewage treatment works, this is a major headache.

Many of the sewers have been inherited from other regions and local authorities,

and Thames frequently has no idea of their precise location, depth and condition. Once the maintenance programme is computerised, engineers will be able to record information about the areas they are inspecting while on the job.

Within the next few years, advances in technology will enable workers to go down man-holes wearing wrist-mounted screens. These will be capable of displaying a range of graphic images from accurate maps pinpointing their exact location to diagrams of pumps, valves or hydrants they might be repairing.

"Hand-held computers let you get the information down into the workforce as well as in the back office," Mr Ribbins says. "They help to create unity in the organisation and to respond to customer problems."

"Unless you put the power in the hands of the staff, you can't really affect the jobs they do. Mainframes are still the most important component to a major business process re-engineering project like ours, but portables are the icing on the cake."

Computer producers are trying to develop crisp, stable colour screens

Pictures for the wall

The way you present information says a lot about the way you do business. Images are powerful and have a strong influence over others.

Such is the rationale behind the colour display, which is claimed to transform a portable computer into a persuasive sales tool and a prestige item for the globe-trotting, image-conscious executive.

As prices fall colour portable computers are predicted to become standard in a few years. This has not been overlooked by Sharp, Dell, Compaq, Toshiba, Amstrad, Zenith, NEC and others who, over the past few months, have announced their own versions of high-quality, colour displays based upon liquid crystal (LCD) "active matrix/TFT" technology.

Only a few months ago, these machines would have been considered too expensive and too much of a drain on power to be practical for prolonged use away from mains electricity.

Coupled with lower-power displays, power management units are being used to put less of a strain on the battery, a traditional barrier to true portability. Colour, it is argued, emphasises key bits of information quicker and gives presentations more impact.

The Windows graphical interface has been popular on desktops, but users have shied away from replicating it on a portable (when it has to be mono) while the pointing devices (used instead of the desktop mouse), can be clumsy.

A combination of polarising filters and twisted liquid crystals create the actual liquid crystal display — rather like placing one pair of polaroid sunglasses over another. Moving the sunglasses alters the amount of light allowed through. An electrical impulse acts as a trigger, causing the liquid crystals to function like the shutter of a camera.

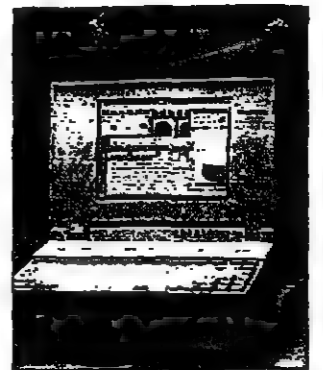
In today's active matrix displays, this scanning process is replaced by tiny thin-film transistors (TFTs) which sit behind every pixel. Dividing each pixel into four makes sure it will continue to function even if one of its four dots should fail.

Active matrix displays maintain their image for longer, so

it appears stable and crisp, a vital ingredient for colour. Unfortunately, such displays are difficult to produce.

The Japanese — the world's most important manufacturer of LCD technology — have been throwing resources at this problem for about five years. Their ultimate goal is to simplify manufacture and increase the level of production to supply a wide variety of active matrix devices with genuine consumer appeal, such as screens for high definition television and LCD pictures you can hang on the wall.

As far as the desktop is concerned, LCD has implications



Fresh use: portable colour

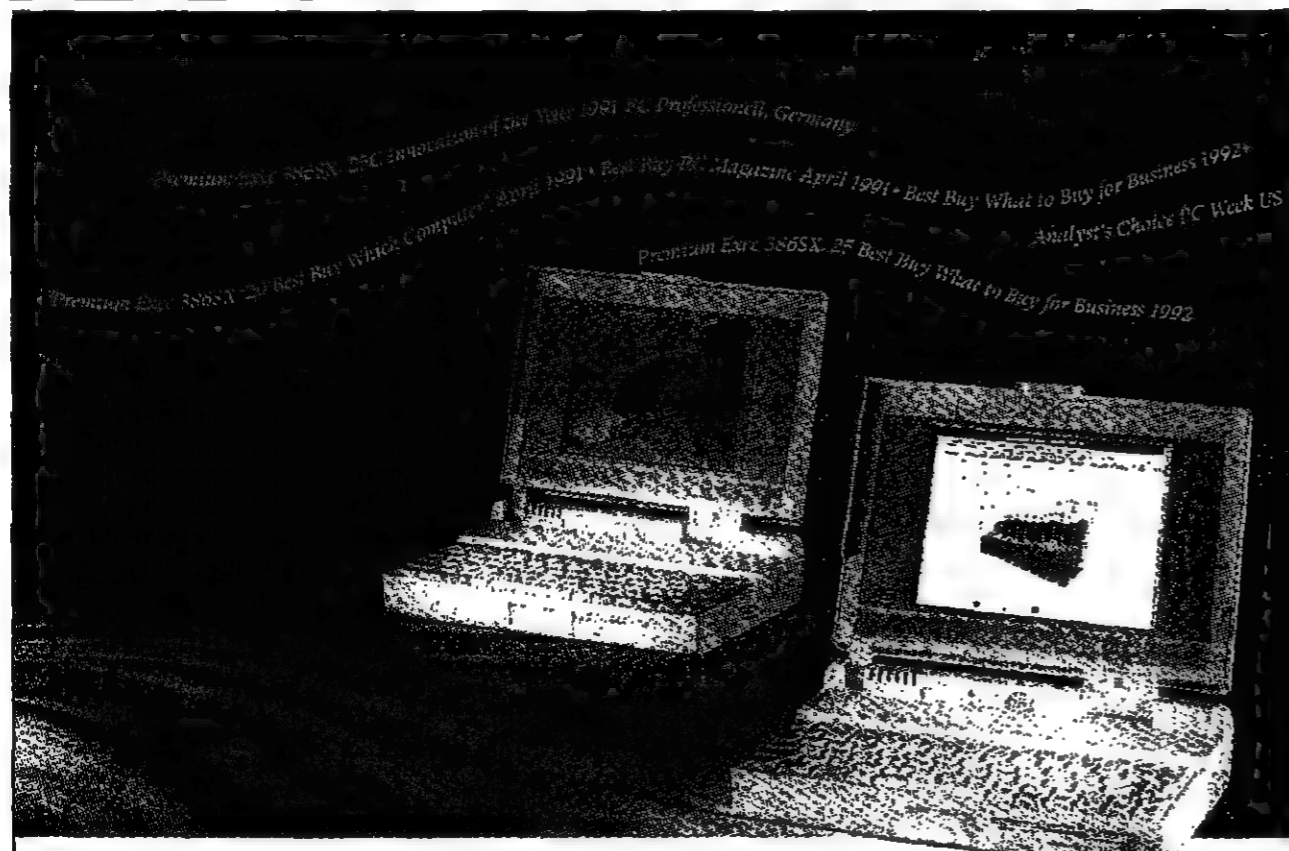
tions for health and safety. Radioactive emissions, normally a worry with conventional screens based on cathode ray tubes (CRT), have been reduced to a minimum, although CRT manufacturers have recently been introducing low emission displays.

The biggest problem with colour LCD's is cost — about four times more expensive than CRT technology.

"The display becomes clearer the more light there is," says David Brooke, responsible for notebook PCs at Dell UK which will use a new type of display with some three and half pound notebook computers it has in the pipeline.

In Dell's case, a reflector has been placed behind the panel, so it passes through the display twice. Unlike basic LCDs, says the company, which can be read only at a precise angle, this screen can be read at any angle, uses only a quarter of the power of a backlight screen and therefore does not make heavy demands on the battery.

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Denmark summon spirit to spring final surprise

PREVIOUS MEETINGS: Denmark and GDR — in the 1986 finals, when GDR won 2-0; international matches between the teams, GDR wins.

□ Holland won the tournament's fair play award, with only four cautions, while the Scottish Football Association has been given a special award for the behaviour of its supporters.

Age	Cape	He may replace Sir
25	38	was regarded as
		serious of
		casualties.
26	35	Only 2,700 that
27	9	been made available
31	53	mark's followers
		officials will not be
26	45	10,000 are in the
		Denmark were
31	72	posed to be here
		place and it would
25	32	too much of a
		expect them to re
35	10	tomorrow to be
24	9	around their capital
		champions of Europe
27	39	Nielsen makes no
		but he has vowed
26	24	his players will give
		□ Holland won.

1954. Quarter-finals: 1968.

the European Cup. In the 23rd year, the club was left with three



ENGLAND: E. J. Hunter (Northampton); S. Mackenzie (Leicester), P. de Glenville (Bath), D. Hooley (Worcester), T. Underwood (Leicester), S. Barnes (Bath, capt), A. Fardouni (Leicester), G. Baddeley (Northampton), G. Dewar (Bath), V. Ugochi (Bath), M. Greenwood (Northampton), D. Baldwin (Sale), M. Bayfield (Northampton), N. Back (Leicester), S. Clarke (Bath).

Moreton and Paul Noble taking part, all of them world record holders. Bradley feels that standards will be exceptionally high.



The Turf Club then announced that it would be held this afternoon. Roche investigated the possibility of getting a High Court injunction to force a further postponement.

1-006 GLASSFLOWER 15 (D,F) Abakurst 5-9-6 G Carter
 3-000 AMETHYSTINE 15 (K,F,R) Hodges 6-9-4
 4-0061 PREMIER PRINCE 21 (D,F,G,S) J Control 6-9-6
 5-026 YONGE TENDER 3 (D,F,G) C Williams 5-8-3 J Bard
 6-066 LER CRU 21 C Brittan 3-8-3 G Duffell
 7-001 SAKON LAD 13 (D,F,G) G Smith 7-1-1
 8-004 DANCING SENSATION 13 (D,F,G) J Whitson 5-7-1
 9-4 PREMIER PRINCE, 9-2 GLASSFLOWER, 5-1 MULBERRY, 7-1 DANCING
 SENSATION, 5-1 LER CRU, AMETHYSTINE, 12-1 OTHERS.

4 45

MANDARIN
5.45 Jaziah. 6.15 El Yasef. 6.45 Gamcock Valley
7.15 Ardkinglass. 7.45 Westholms. 8.15 Piquant
8.45 Athamad.

THUNDERER
5.45 Golden Torque. 8.15 Cumbrian Waitzer
6.45 Gamcock Valley. 7.15 Ardkinglass. 7.45
Latvian. 8.15 Piquant. 8.45 Athamad.

Our Newmarket Correspondent:
7.15 ARDKINGLASS (nap).

5.20 GREY HANDICAP

(All-weather: 3-Y-O: £2,265: 1m 4f) (8)

1	1259	PERFORATE 3Y (BUD) M Prescott 9-7	...	G Duffield
2	6404	DANCING YEARS 11 (V) M Channon 9-5	...	R Jones
3	634	ANGUSH 8 M Callaghan 9-4	...	J Tate
4	0-03	MILLADOR 21 M Tompkins 8-11	...	S Mulvey
5	304	WITCHES COVEN 13 M Bell 8-11	...	P Turner
6	4051	IDEAL CANDIDATE 4 (F) C Cogg 8-10 (Sed)	...	G Carter
7	405	PRIDE OF BRITAIN 13 L Brown 8-10	...	D Harrison
8	0-80	SENEFECT 13 D Arkinstrot 8-3	...	G Bardwell

3-1 Dancino Years, 7-2 Perforate, 8-2 Pride Of Britain

5.25 LEVY BOARD APPRENTICE HANDICAP
(£2,225: 1m 2b) (4)

1 1052 **MAKZOCCHO** 28 (1) J Fleich-Heyes 4-9-10 ... D Biggs
2 1312 **PLAN ALNEED** 13 (8F,C,G,S) G Heyes 3-9-10
3 065 **DUTCH CZARINA** 6 Miss B Sanders 4-8-11
4 0002 **NOW BOARDING** 13 R Hodges 5-8-7 ... S Drowson
11-8 **MAKZOCCHO**, 2-1 **Plan Alneed**, 7-2 **Dutch Czarina**, 8-1 **Now Boarding**.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: M Channon, 6 winners from 20 runners, 30%
L Correll, 4 from 14, 28.6% G Harwood, 19 from 68,

□ Iky Foustok, grand-daughter of racehorse owner Mahmoud Foustok, has her first ride in public at Doncaster today, on Mahzooz for Mohammed Moubarsak in the AF Budget Ladies' Maiden Stakes.

(E3, U28: 1m 27 32yd) (8 runners)

1 0020 GOLDEN TORQUE 13 (C,D,F,G,S) R Berman 5-9-16
M Buxton 6-9-4

2 0016 DAWN SUCCESS 17 (D,F,G,S) D Chapman 6-9-4
S D Willis 6-9-3

3 001 SILVER HAZE 16 (C,D,F,G,S) W A Stephenson 6-9-3
J Farnell 6-9-1

4 0015 TOUCH ABOVE 35 (D,F) T Barron 6-9-2
V Hannon 6-9-1

5 000 JAZZLAX 52 (F) Mrs G Henley 4-9-0
F Norr 6-9-1

6 0332 BUCKINGHAM BAND 7 (B) L Lee 4-8-1
N Kemm 6-9-1

7 4465 QUEENS TOUR 41 (D,G,S) M Brittan 7-7-7
S Malpas 6-9-1

8 0-00 INTO THE FUTURE 32,4 Springer 5-7-7
C Hawley 6-9-1

8.155 NORTHERN ROCK GOSFORTH PARK
CUP (Handicap: 111,453-56 (12))

1	3610	WICKEYOY 2 (V.D.F.G)	B Beasley	5-10-8	S D Williams	7-13-18	8
2	4300	LANDER WALTZER 1A (B.F.C.D.F.G)					9
3	1015	EAGER DEVA 35 (D.G.)	J H Hoffmann	5-9-7			10
4	2-40	NEVER IN THE RED 23 (D.F.G)	J Berry	4-9-5	1 Carr		11
5	5000	HEAVEN-LEGGH-GRY 2 (D.F.G)	M Johnston	4-8-4			12
6	002	LUCEBOD 14 (C.D.F.G)	J Spinning	8-8-12			13
7	0535	EL YASAF 7 (D.F.G)	M Page	4-8-12			14
8	0413	LOVE RETURNED 14 (D.F.G.S)	W Harris	5-8-11			15
9	1664	BARRY'S GAMBLE 7 (U.D.F.S)	F Fairhurst				16

6.45 ANGERTON MAIDEN STAKES
(£3,882: 6f) (3)

7-4 Garmok Valley, 3-1 So So, 7-1 Davesi Champs, Express, 8-1 Tri Mi Way, 10-1 Panther, 18-1 others.

7.15 BRANDING STAKES (£3,785):

1 214 ARDKINGGLASS 10 (BF, F) H Cael 8-11 about
3 RAZARDOR 18 (F) J Esherington 8-11 about
4 LADIMON 10 (F) J Esherington 8-11 about
6 EXODUS 13 (F) H Eatenery 8-11 about
5 PERSIAN BRAVE M Bell 8-6
3 ROYAL REBEKA M Britain 8-11 the
5

8.15 DOBSON PEACOCK HANDICAP
(£7,180: 1m) (7)

4 -340 SHOWGI 20 (P) 1 Fanchase 3-5-3 W
5 0012 ALUMINUM MFG 22 (C,D,F) C. Triller 4-9-2
6 -336 MARTINI EXECUTIVE 57 (B,D,F) E. Bentley
7 51371 BLOCKADE 7 (D,F,G) M Bell 3-8-4 (Sec)
9-4 Blockade, 11-4 Piquant, 9-6 American 3-8-4
7 Bay, 10-1 Showgi, 12-1 Petroco, 16-1 Margot Racour

8.45 WILLIAM EDWIN NEESHAM
GRADUATION STAKES (4,5,6,0) 1m 27 3/20

1 131- CUMBERIAN CHALLENGE 241 (G) M H N Gr
2 -231 ALHAMAD 11 (G) (D) H Cool 3-6-1

TRAINERS: H Cecil, 9 winners from 23 runners, 39%; Jarvis, 3 from 14, 21.4%; J Berry, 18 from 84, 21%; Johnston, 4 from 28, 14.3%; C Timber, 9 from 40; C Bsey, 5 from 41, 12.2%.

JOCKEYS: M Tebbutt, 4 winners from 7 rides, 57%; Eddery, 14 from 34, 41.2%; J Carroll, 14 from 57; M Hills, 4 from 25, 16%; M Birch, 22 from 145; Dean Mackenzie, 18 from 121, 14.9%.

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THE TIMES SPORT

FRIDAY JUNE 26 1992

McEnroe rolls back the years to eclipse Cash



McEnroe: five-set win

By ANDREW LONGMORE
TENNIS CORRESPONDENT

THE end, when it came, was surprisingly quick. The pair had fought tooth and claw for four hours and eight minutes until John McEnroe, who had seemed dead and buried when he lost the third set, dug ever deeper into his champion's soul and emerged the victor over Pat Cash 6-7, 6-4, 6-7, 6-3, 6-2.

Down by two sets to one and increasingly frustrated by his inability to convert openings into games, McEnroe looked as though he would bid an early farewell to the Championships for the

second year in succession. Last year, he went out to Stefan Edberg amid a blaze of publicity. Yesterday, apart from the odd throw of the racket, more a reflection of his own inadequacies than any frustration at bad line calls, he was as concentrated and well behaved as when he beat Boris Becker so astoundingly and comprehensively in the third round of the Australian Open. This was a comparable feat.

Cash has been playing well in recent weeks and his few losses at Wimbledon are always to the best of names. Becker (twice), Lendl (twice) and McEnroe himself.

McEnroe's own form has not been promising but he produced some of his best grass-court tennis to counter the challenge of the Australian and, by the end, had broken his opponent's spirit.

The pair know each other's characters well enough because they are good friends. They collaborated on a record for the Armenian Earthquake appeal last year and share a love of rock music. But, surprisingly, as their careers have overlapped for the last ten years, they do not know each other's games well. The last time they played was at Wembley in 1986 when the Australian emerged

the winner. They had not met on grass since the semi-final at Wimbledon in 1984. McEnroe, who was at the height of his powers then, won in straight sets.

Much water has passed under the bridge since those heady days. Cash has come back from two bad injuries and McEnroe has been struggling to cope with his imperfections. This is his last full year on the tour, though he has not completely closed the door. Like Cash, he would like to play part-time, pick and choose his events. He would be happy to play as well as Cash on such a limited diet too.

The pair have shared four Wimbledon titles between them Cash savouring the moment of glory most recently, in 1987. Yesterday, there was a lot at stake for both men. Pride most of all. It was always going to be tight, always going to be long and the early exchanges suggested there was little to choose between the two former champions.

Jimmy White had forsaken his snooker table for an afternoon to watch Cash, but in the 27 minutes it took White to achieve a maximum break in the world championships and pocket £114,000, Cash and McEnroe had managed just seven games.

In the eighth game, Cash saved a break point with a rock solid volley and a set point two games later. McEnroe showing the first - and one of the few - signs of frustration at missing a chance. Cash, though, seemed to be serving and volleying marginally the better and the tie-break proved the point, Cash reaching set point with an instinctive parry of a McEnroe smash. He took the first set on the next point.

The pattern continued until the American, dredging two backhand passes from his memory, broke for the first time to lead 3-2. McEnroe

duly took the set, but when he lost the tie-break 7-1 after two hours and 45 minutes, his head seemed low and his legs weary. Not for the first time, we misjudged the signs, underestimated the will.

Finally, it was Cash, at 27 the younger by five years who felt the tension the most. His serve suddenly lost its sting, McEnroe sensed the cracks and hammered away with a series of service returns. The final, decisive turn in the match came in the fifth game of the final set, a forehand pass leaving Cash helpless at the net and giving McEnroe a 3-2 lead. Four games later and McEnroe was through.

Britain's sole surviving singles player at Wimbledon sweeps into the third round

Bates fulfils rising expectations

By ALIX RAMSAY

LIFE is changing for Jeremy Bates. After his famous victory over Michael Chang on Tuesday, he has not had a minute's peace. Following a 7-6, 6-3, 6-4 win over Javier Sánchez yesterday it will only get worse. If he keeps on, the quietest spot he may find is on the tennis court.

If Chang had been a tough first-round draw, the match yesterday was, in many ways, harder still. The pressure was on Bates to win. He knew it, the crowd knew it and Sánchez probably knew it too. "I was aware of the pressure before I started and it took a little time to get used to No. 1 court and its surrounds," he said. "But once I was used to it, I just focused on the tennis."

That period of readjustment took much of the first set. At first he lacked the sharpness he had shown against Chang and the crowd was getting twitchy. Once Bates had the first set under his belt, they could settle back and just focus on the British No. 1.

Things did not look well from the start, Bates emerging with his right arm swathed in a huge bandage. That turned out to be no more than a precautionary measure and, as Bates found his feet, his service became his vital weapon. Twice he came back from 0-40 down to deny Sánchez the chance of a break, banging down five aces and giving the Spaniard not a hint of an opening.

Where Chang had looked like a man who wanted to be somewhere else, Sánchez looked like a man who wanted to be somewhere else, and if he could take his supporters club with him, so much the better. Even the line judges seemed to be against him.

After Bates had manoeuvred himself to set point in the first-set tie-break he appeared to put a volley fractionally wide. The official called it good. But whenever Sánchez approached that same line the ball was invariably out. With the first set gone to



Results, page 39
Navratilova wins, page 39

Bates, Sánchez was never quite the same opponent.

"That first set was huge," Bates said. "I noticed he visibly eased off a bit, his serve was easier to reach and I knew I had to seize the initiative." That he did, seemingly turning on the style whenever he needed it most. He needed to, as well. Where Chang had offered Bates free points, Sánchez was giving little away. If the Briton, aged 30, missed his first service, Sánchez attacked his second and, while the Spaniard may be known for his clay-court prowess, he was not averse to trying his luck at the net with what Dan Maskell used to call "a little dink".

"To the public Chang's a bigger name than Sánchez but Sánchez is a good player and more competent on grass," Bates said. "I had nothing to lose against Chang but if I lose to anyone less than him now it is suddenly a bad loss. I am pleased I managed to bring my best tennis from Tuesday with me to this match. Today was a match I had to win."

Bates's next opponent is another clay-courter, Thierry Champion, the Frenchman who beat Nick Brown at the same stage last year. In theory the opponents are getting easier, Chang was ranked seven, Sánchez 32 and Champion is 50. Beyond that lies a possibility of the ninth seed, Guy Forget. Not that Bates is looking that far ahead. Still amazed by the response to his success, he is sticking firmly to the next hurdle ahead.

"Champion is tough, he is very good from the baseline and he doesn't come in much," he said. "All this has to be put into perspective. I've won a match, today I've won another match and that's all it is to me."

Not that Bates is complaining about the attention, although he would rather it focused on somebody else. "I can understand it in a way," he said, "but I am not used to it." If he keeps on like this, he may just have to get used to it.



Taking a grip: Bates returns service during his second-round win over Sánchez at Wimbledon yesterday

Graf welcomes Wimbledon drugs tests

By JOHN GOODBODY

STEFFI Graf, of Germany, the holder of the women's singles title, yesterday welcomed the decision to have drugs testing at the Wimbledon championships next year.

After her second-round victory over Marianne Werdel, of the United States, Graf said: "It sounds good to me. I don't think it is a big problem but why not clear it up and do the best to show that it is a clean sport."

"A big fuss has been made about it. I just think they really have to tighten up on testing."

Over the last month, both Graf and John McEnroe have accused some players of having taken drugs to improve their performances. Graf emphasised she had never been tested in any tournament.

A meeting at the All England Club on Wednesday agreed that testing should be introduced shortly at all leading international tourna-

ments in Britain, using the protocol of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) because tennis is now an Olympic sport.

There has been testing in domestic tournaments under the jurisdiction of the Lawn Tennis Association since 1987 and about 40 players give samples each year, including some testing out of season on the national squads.

There has been sampling at the last two French Open championships because the

French government insists that any important sports event held in its country is subject to a programme carried out by its officers at its laboratory.

However, there is still controversy over the fact that players will be able to take stimulants that are banned by the IOC and not be disqualified. They will receive only counselling because the players' organisations believe taking drugs is a social problem rather than an effort to improve performances.



SIMON BARNES
AT WIMBLEDON

Here are three mysteries about Andre Agassi.

1. If he is paid a fortune for marketing clothing, why do you never see anybody dressed like him?

2. If Agassi is, as he says, a more talented player than Jim Courier, why is Courier ranked No. 1 and Agassi 14? And why does Courier win grand slam tournament finals and Agassi lose them?

3. If Agassi is such a rebel, why do ultra-conservative multi-national companies pay him to advertise their wares?

But there is no doubt about Wimbledon's love affair with Agassi. Nor is there much mystery about it: there is a perfectly genuine charm that shines out from behind all the phoniness. The girls squeal for him as if he were a Beate, and absolutely every-one queues for him.

They did so yesterday and saw a match of great charm as Agassi beat an eccentric pony-tailed Argentinian-turned-Belgian called Eduardo Masso, a man of a thousand shots and a game that did not quite add up. Agassi lunched, hiccupped and walloped his way to win, 4-6, 6-1, 6-3, 6-3.

In a way, all his personal superstitions are unnecessary. Agassi would be just as compelling if he looked as absolutely ordinary as, say, Jeremy Bates. He has the gift of watchability of stamping his personality all over the match, and that is nothing to do with haircuts and clothes.

"I'm growing out the sides of my hair. It's tough to keep it with the bandana. I have to make sure I style it and keep it with the bandana so it behaves." That, by the way, is why Agassi is wearing a hat this Wimbledon. Does this mean he won't show us his hair in the full glory? "I'm sure I will. I'm sure I'll play with the bandana here coming up soon." Good news, eh?

Less good news for Agassi is that yesterday he was fined \$1,500 (about £800) for Wednesday's "audible obscenity". Agassi plans to appeal. "It's a principle. The supervisor needs more accountability." He added that this business would never affect "what I feel about Wimbledon. I feel I belong".

But one sometimes wonders if Agassi is playing quite the same game as everyone else. Surely nobody without a grand slam title to his name has ever made as much money at the game. One must assume that money is a greater priority than glory.

Most journalists know of a colleague who abandoned journalism for advertising. We curl our lips at such a fellow. He is a sell-out, a loser, somebody who couldn't stand the pace in the real game. Meanwhile, the ad-man makes a fortune and believes the rest of us fools.

Courier is like the hard-news joumo of cliché: who thinks only about the glory of the story. He would be in the game for nothing. To see his name up there above the world exclusive is reward enough. But Agassi is like the ad-man: surely money is the point of working?

I suspect this is something to do with Las Vegas. Las Vegas is a place at which Americans hurl incalculable millions of dollars, day after day, night after night. A Las Vegas picks up the money. Agassi is a Las Vegas.

If people throw money at you, you'd be a fool not to pick it up. Agassi, phenomenally talented tennis player but more than that. He has used tennis as a method to make multi-national companies hurl millions of dollars at him. It is not in the nature of a Las Vegas man to leave throw-away dollars where they lie. Agassi is a Las Vegas genius.

His tennis has moments that look like genius too, but as Corporal Jones would say, he doesn't like it up 'im. The greatest tennis players play the greatest tennis in adversity: Agassi plays his best when he is on top. Like Graeme Hick, he is a flat-track bully. Like Graeme Hick, there remains a question about his courage. The summer will continue to ask searching questions of both.

However, win lose or draw, the world still loves Agassi. Perhaps his vulnerability makes him even more lovable. The Andre Agassi bandwagon - a vehicle one imagines covered in chrome, go-faster stripes and super-numerary headlights, and from which at least one wheel has already fallen - will rumble on for years.

S African participation still in limbo

FROM MICHAEL HAMLYN IN JOHANNESBURG

SOUTH African athletes are going through a nervous time with rumours that the African National Congress asked the Mauritius government to keep them out of the eighth African track and field championships in the national stadium in Mauritius and a threat that they will be withdrawn from the Barcelona Olympic Games.

The South Africans have hopes of gathering a large number of medals at the championships, particularly since a number of the leading athletes from the rest of the Continent seem to be saving themselves for the Olympics.

Their great Olympic hope, the middle-distance runner, Elana Meyer, led the way by winning the gold medal for the 1,500 metres yesterday ahead of her countrywoman,

Gwen Griffiths. Meyer later called on South African sporting bodies not to withdraw from next month's Barcelona Olympics, despite ANC pressure. In the men's 10,000 metres, Xolite Yawa and Patrick Koatsane won silver and bronze medals.

Some of the big names from Kenya's squad are missing from these championships, however, and Frankie Fredericks, Namibia's leading sprinter, is absent. There have also been some despondent remarks reported here from the Olympic officials in Barcelona. Josep Miquel Abad, the chief executive of Barcelona's Olympics '92 committee, is quoted as saying "I spoke with IOC president, Juan Antonio Samaranch, this morning and it seems the outlook is

quite pessimistic." But he added that no decision would be taken on South African participation until July 11, two weeks before the Games' opening.

In South Africa itself, the African National Congress has called for a series of discussions with various sporting bodies to decide how far to reimpose the moratorium on international participation. Steve Tshwete, the ANC's senior sports official, said that the ANC did not want to be "prescriptive" about it. They would ask for the support of the sports organisations.

Other events under threat include a visit by the Cameroon football team, rugby tours by the New Zealand and Australian teams and a summer cricket tour by India.



Meyer: Olympic hope

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HEALTH, p5
Can television
heal? Lynn
Redgrave
thinks it can



LIFE & TIMES

FRIDAY JUNE 26 1992

MOTORING, p7

Hot stuff: but
should this
car be on
the road?



Is it time
society stopped
finding excuses for
the perpetrators
of violent and
pointless crime,
and started hating
them instead?

We must praise Mrs Joan Cooper, the latest in a line of brave, indomitable grandmothers who says she feels no bitterness towards the young men who threw acid into her eyes, punched and kicked her, then ran off with some paltry loot (cigarettes, rum and "a small mug") two days after Christmas.

Praise, too, for Mr Justice Rousier, the son of the late novelist George Heyer. He declared he would show mercy in the same degree as was shown by the attackers, Anthony Langton and Jason Raby, and sentenced them to ten years' jail and nine years' youth custody respectively. "This redoubtable lady," he said, "has more courage in her little finger than you have in your nasty, cowardly little bodies."

Here we have — yet again — two stereotypes of contemporary life: the female victim (increasingly elderly and frail) and the young man bereft of human feeling. How many column inches have been spent trying to understand and analyse the phenomenon?

The compassion and articulacy of victims is striking. I have a collection of accounts of assaults: "Fear and loathing in Putney" (by the novelist A.S. Byatt, mugged in her quiet suburban road), "Victim of Thieves in the Night: Gillian Widdicombe was mugged outside her home." "The lesson my mugger taught me," by Maggie Brown, one of 220 victims of street attacks in Britain within a three-week period in 1980. "To catch a thief," by Elizabeth Hillard, who surprised a burglar in her flat, and lost a tooth as well as her not very valuable, but to her precious, jewellery.

There is a formula in these well-written, thoughtful stories. The victim, sadder and wiser, recalls her initial surprise at the attack, and her polite admonishments. "A very tall, athletic man, aged no more than 20, bore down on me, face expressionless beneath a small woolly hat." "I felt a sudden violent blow on the back of my head. I even said: 'Oh, I am sorry...' " "I think I said something idiotic like: 'Hello, who are you?' " Then there is their retrospective fury: the helplessness of having been so helpless. The way adrenalin surged, and their minds raced, the things they shouted — "How dare you hit a woman in the face?" "What would your mothers think of you doing something like this?" (as Mrs Cooper cried to her attackers). Afterwards, there is the kindness of neighbours to be recorded — "An 80-year-old retired tap dancer and his wife who lived next door asked me if I would be 'short' and offered help from the housekeeping tin" — and the inevitable dread aftermath of watchfulness, suspicion, and fear of all strangers in the street.

Getting the experience off their chests is cathartic. They hope they will help others by publishing their accounts, and they do. They also persuade themselves that the attack was a learning experience. "Self-defence courses should be a compulsory part of the liberated female's education." "I've learnt a lot about the fragility of that personal sense of invulnerability we are all born with."

What is never satisfactorily explained is the pathology of the male attacker. Theodore Dalrymple, sometime prison doctor, has observed the criminal mind, about which he wrote last week in *The Spectator*. To see the expressionless face, the cold, dead, bright eyes of the psychopath, he said, breaks down all liberal sentiment. "Repentance is rare, except in front of the parole board... I have not met one who realises empathetically how traumatic even petty crime is to many of its victims, or how it can change its victims' lives."

Worse, he says, the "liberal Zeitgeist" which has long sought to affix blame for criminal behaviour elsewhere, allows prisoners to feel it is they, not those they have robbed or assaulted, who are the real victims. "This allows them to retain their sense of moral worth."

Derek van Arman, an American writer who has also researched the criminal mind as one of a White House-appointed team of psychologists, is in town to promote *Just Killing Time*, a novel based on his investigations into serial killers. "Two kids throw acid in the face of an old lady. The public defines these people as 'evil'. The psychologist or criminologist will tell you you're dealing with sociopaths: a person who lacks a conscience, who does not feel remorse or guilt. But they cannot explain it."



"This lady has more courage in her little finger than you have in your nasty, cowardly little bodies." Mr Justice Rousier told Anthony Langton (left) and Jason Raby for their attack on Joan Cooper



Nasty, brutish and young

Mr van Arman is emboldened to feel he can. "We're all born with an intellectual, cognitive mind, with which we think, and an emotional mind, with which we feel love, joy, sorrow, hate and anger: all other feelings are a combination, including remorse and guilt. What we now realise is that we're dealing with a class of people, usually male, whose intellect is intact but whose emotional constitution is, from childhood, stunted. All you have to do is introduce into that child's environment a grievous psychic trauma, some physical or psychological abuse, and what little bit of emotion that child was born with is driven out, or severely blunted. Then you have an entire new type of personality: we call them devoids. Devoid of human emotion as you and I know it: sociopaths. No glimmer of emotion or soul."

"We accept that some children are born intellectually dull, yet it seems to be harder to accept that children's emotional bases can vary, even though their intellect is fairly normal. They may even appear to be unusually bright. But while you and I may have an ability to understand life's drama and comedy, shaped by our emotions, an ability to sympathise with other people, sentiments like love, sorrow, and pain are meaningless to these people. That is why they can engage in such horrific acts: they do not care about how helpless the victim is, and the victims of most atrocious violence in my country are women and children."

"We are in the age of the motiveless crime. Crime for amusement. People ask: 'Why do they do it?' How can someone attack a helpless old woman? Do they not feel any pain themselves, to do something this atrocious? Well, how would you explain colour to a blind person? Emotionally these people are blind."

"They become thespians. They don't understand what a smile or laugh means, but they can turn it on for their prey. And women, who have a much higher emotional constitution than men, and are physically weaker, are the most vulnerable to that. A boy arrives at the door, and women like Mrs Cooper, who opened her door to two men apparently needing water for their car, react with a maternal feeling."



VALERIE GROVE

Mr van Arman says he has studied every serial killer since Vlad the Impaler, alias Count Dracula. "Bram Stoker knew it was too hard to understand a predator who takes human life for no reason but pleasure, so he sugar-coated the story by attributing divine powers to Dracula. In recent decades we have done the same thing: we give these people the sugar coating of mental illness. But these people are not insane. They know right from wrong. They know what they are doing. And now we are beginning to acknowledge this. Jeffrey Dahmer [the Milwaukee killer of 17 men] was found to be sane. Fifteen years ago, because it is so hard for a normal person to comprehend, he might well have been declared insane. Now we are beginning to break down that sugar coating and interpret for the public why it is that these monsters take life."

"Typically, they are simply unable to realise fully what they have done. 'I didn't do anything that

terrible,' they say. That's why a film like *The Silence of the Lambs* is so dangerous. In America we are raising serial killers to the status of folklore heroes: people who have achieved nothing but destruction. What is the point of Dan Quayle addressing 'family values' when the serial killer is raised to celebrity status? There are even playing cards for children with pictures of the serial killers and, on the back, details of how many victims, and what they did to the victims."

Mr van Arman's message is comfortless: ask him how we are supposed to detect the devoids early in life (or what precisely we can do about them) and he speaks of women being the primary caregivers, who hold the family structure together and set the limits of socially acceptable behaviour. "Mrs Dahmer saw her son, aged eight, coming home with dead squirrels, dead cats: didn't she ever wonder? This is recurrent. Young men who attack and violate women start as little boys who display a purely emotional base."

"All these children have parents," he says. "They don't come from nowhere. I don't led dads off the hook either."

Mr van Arman, who keeps a pistol at home for self-defence, agrees with Michael Reid, who wrote to *The Times* this week (a propos football riots) that society becomes more violent, unpleasant and threatening as population grows. "We have a highly populated, transient society living in areas we call megacities. Millions of people go in and out to work every day, and the result of the career lifestyle is the destruction of the community we have known for the past century. There's a neighbour three doors down and you don't know what he does or what pss he has. It is an alienating environment, in which a killer can effectively camouflage himself. People always say: 'But he was so quiet. A loner.' That's how he avoided detection."

Drink does not help, nor do drugs. The combination of a football stadium, beer and crowds makes for fuelled emotions, broken-down inhibitions, built-up anger: ergo, violence. There is nothing new about the profiling of criminals: profiles have been constructed since Jack the Ripper.

David Canter, professor of applied psychology at Surrey university, runs a course in criminal profiling. But our understanding of human nature has advanced, and the conclusions are not optimistic.

More than ever, there is a vast gulf between the attacker and the attacked. There is no common ground of understanding between 75-year-old Mrs Cooper, determined to remain living her independent life in her home in Oxfordshire, and the two men.

When Ms Byatt was mugged a second time, what the robber took was her notebook, full of plans for stories, notes, poems, months of concentrated research, general thoughts on life, politics, and art: of no use to anyone, it seems almost crass to say, but invaluable to her. It is tiresome, and wearying, to replace stolen chequebooks, credit cards, keys; but the product of a mind at work is beyond valuation.

"I don't want to make too heavy weather of this," Ms Byatt wrote. "I am not harmed, and I will write my book." (She did; it was called *Possession* and it won the Booker prize in 1990, so perhaps there is a God.) "But I have begun to notice, differently, those who have been damaged by even mild experiences of this kind." She cited a woman aged 86 who had her handbag snatched; it contained only £4, and she was not hurt. "But she never smiled again, and she stopped putting her hair in curlers... and in a month she was dead."

"We survive," wrote Ms Byatt, "but when it has happened, everything seems insecure. Windows seem fragile even if locked, and doors seem thin. Worse even than the events themselves is a pervasive atmosphere of fear which seems to come after them."

That is what we mean when we feel threatened by crime. We may be accused by the ghost of Franklin Delano Roosevelt that we have nothing to fear but fear itself. Statistically we may be more likely to produce a Wimbledon champion (or any other fantastical hypothesis) than be attacked in the street at night. But every time we read of narrow escapes, and brave grandmothers, and widows who fought back, we are reminded of this fact: everyone surrounds themselves with precious accoutrements of normal life. And these small, worthy things are threatened by the least worthy people imaginable.

Paul Theroux, in his *The Kingdom by the Sea*, a journey through British coastal towns, gave a graphic account of the gulf between the traditional family seaside day out and the menacing intrusion of the traditional British lout. He is on a bank holiday train to a Kentish resort, when suddenly the tramp of heavy boots and loud laughter and ear-splitting shouts profane the peace of the picnicking families. "It was the size of their heads that I found alarming," he writes. "A head without any hair is a small thing. It can look like a knob with eyes and ears... the person looks insectile and dangerous. They had tattoos on their heads, and tattoos on their earslobes. They were dressed identically

in short leather bomber jackets. The backs of their hands were tattooed. The Union Jack was the commonest tattoo..."

Must we try to understand their behaviour? We try, pathetically, to shame them, writing (every other day, it seems) about oiks and yobs and louts. We wait about violent videos, neglected children. When Michael Ryan killed or injured 30 people in Hungerford, traumatising the nation, there was much collective guilt about "a moral vacuum for which we must all answer". What would the schools, the church, the government do? But enough of all that. Raby's father was quoted as saying his son could rot in hell; Langton's grandmother said: "There is no excuse. It was wicked, evil and sickening."

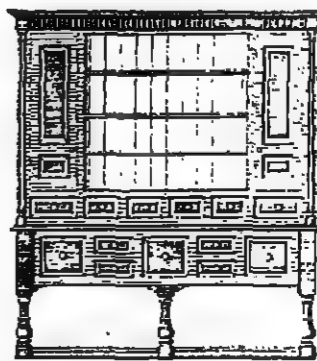
Mrs Cooper's son Paul, a jovial publican, has been overwhelmed by the warmth of feeling for his mother. Letters have come from

burglars in prison, he says, declaring that they would draw the line at hitting an old lady. Even old lags, Mr Cooper says, had a code of conduct. "But values have changed. At one time, these young men might have held my mother while they robbed the house. But flashing a grumpy over the head for 50p — that seems to be common today." It is no longer appropriate to theorise about young people being materially rapacious, spiritually deprived, morally damaged. However depressing and bleak it is to confront harsh facts, it is time we felt able to strain, with Mr Justice Rousier, our quality of mercy.

TOMORROW

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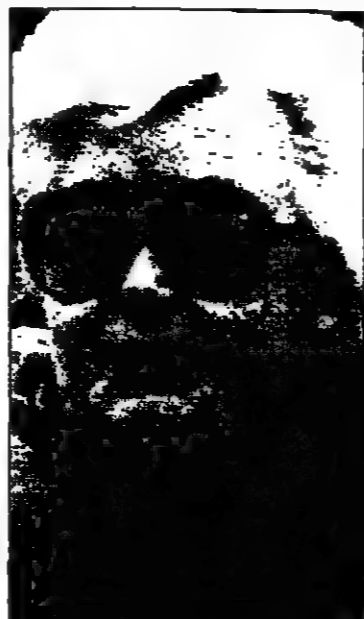
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What would
your
mothers
think of
you doing
something
like this?
Joan Cooper
cried
to her
attackers



Where the walls have eyes

**Richard Cork on
Catalan artist
Antoni Tàpies,
Spain's most
distinguished
living painter**

Walking through the Gothic quarter of Barcelona on boyhood visits to his grandparents, Antoni Tàpies had to move through a maze of narrow, decaying streets. They seemed to press in on him, and their crumbling surfaces were pitted with ancient abrasions. Children often run their hands across walls, paying more attention to the indentations than adults ever do. The young Tàpies was no exception, and when the Civil War erupted he became equally fascinated by the graffiti which spread like a contagion over the face of his native city.

Memories of that formative period lie behind everything in the Serpentine Gallery's powerful Tàpies exhibition, which confirms his reputation as Spain's most distinguished living painter. But there is nothing picturesque or nostalgic about the images here. Confined to the work of the Fifties and Sixties, when Tàpies became a leader of the European avant-garde, the show discloses how uncompromising he was.

The four monumental pictures presiding over the first room have retained their ability to discomfit the viewer. Restricted in the main to a dark, brooding range of colours, they rest in front of us with cliff-like palpability. Their mixed materials are built up into encrusted surfaces, as thick and cracked as medieval house-frontage. But Tàpies is too abstract an artist to present a literal image of a wall. The matter is smeared like excrement or heaped on the canvas without any attempt to disguise his own impulsive manipulation.

Nor is there any doubt about the aggression involved. Although *Large Painting with Dotted Lines* may sound innocuous as a title, the holes puncturing the dull brown surface suggest that a gunman has been spraying the canvas with bullets. Tàpies often appears to have attacked these pictures, leaving them pummelled and fragmented. Deep lines are scored in some of the images, as if to cancel



Art as votive offering: *Medieval*, 1959 (left) and *Matter in the Form of a Foot*, 1965 by Antoni Tàpies, included in the show at the Serpentine Gallery.



the forms which they contain.

On one level, these resolutely ungratifying pictures reflect Tàpies's rebellion against the reactionary taste of the Franco regime. He abhorred the kitsch provincialism which overcame so much Spanish art during those tyrannical years. Working swiftly and wildly, with materials regarded as heretical by the official painters, Tàpies registered his rejection of the Francoist academies. And he succeeded in earning the condemnation of the establishment artists.

Tàpies's dissatisfaction with their facile, trimming orthodoxies knew no bounds. That is why his preoccupation with walls can also be seen as a desire to emphasise the oppressiveness of Spanish society. However dilapidated his masonry-like pictures may seem, their stern materiality remains unyielding. Each slab looks as gaunt as a fortress, shutting out the light and preventing the people who inhabit

these buildings from escaping their confines. Tàpies himself was able to work in Paris and New York during the Fifties, and benefit from the post-war ferment of new ideas he discovered there. He knew, however, that no such release was available for most of his fellow Catalans. They had to endure a prolonged period of cultural paralysis, ruled by a dictator who cut

Spain off from all revivifying contact with the rest of the world.

But the metaphor of the wall cannot be associated with coercion alone. Tàpies, whose name in Catalan actually means 'walls', regards their surfaces as a liberating public arena as well. Like the combatants who used Barcelona's facades as a forum for slogans during the Civil War, he unleashes his own dissenting rage on canvas.

In *Grey Painting* he slashes the picture surface with brassy, gouging furrows like a vandal. As for *Red and Black with Resolute Areas*, the skin of the picture has been ripped away in two places, exposing the rawness of cement-like deposits on a white layer beneath.

Within his restricted range of colours, Tàpies achieves a surprising variety of effects. Some pictures are unbearably dry, riddled with fissures which prophesy the eventual fracturing of the entire surface. Others, like the exclamatory *Ochre-grey and Brown*, are awash with

frenzied flurries of pigment. Their fluidity irrigates the canvas, and seems as refreshing as a sudden rainstorm.

Occasionally, Tàpies's reluctance to bring a picture to completion makes his work seem inconclusive. The pasty material stays disappointingly inert, bearing out the accuracy of his own suspicion that,

**'Tàpies appears
to have attacked
his pictures,
leaving them
pummelled and
fragmented'**

"If I have a weakness, it's that I put too little in my work, not too much." But the preponderance of subdued, looming pictures provides a calculated foil for the images where Tàpies does allow himself to indulge in a more exuberant passage. Without warning, a

red stripe zips across an otherwise shadowy canvas, alleviating the darkness and maybe even celebrating the presence of the chair below. Seat, back and legs all project lumpily from the canvas, as though Tàpies's inchoate matter had suddenly decided to take on a recognisable form.

The chair itself could hardly be more ordinary, exemplifying his

desire to select the most insignificant objects and endow them with a magical significance. This rudimentary piece of furniture glows in the nocturnal void, indicating the artist's hope that his work might possess a redemptive force.

So far as Tàpies is concerned, art should aspire to the condition of a votive offering. By making the brown mass in a 1965 painting resolve itself into a colossal foot, he allies the picture with a traditional Spanish custom of offering images of bodily parts in church, as a plea or gesture of gratitude for the cure of illness. Afflicted with six toes and a rash of painful incisions, the swollen foot has clearly been battered by life. But it still looks robust enough to be regenerated.

Can a similar conclusion be drawn from *Crucified Form*? Without Tàpies's title to guide us, we might fail to notice the figurative element in this densely textured image. The scratches and slashes take on a vicious dimension as they penetrate the grey torso. Scored lines lead out from the body like blood spurting from wounds. But the most disconcerting part of the picture is the head where Tàpies has given the figure a blockish mask devoid of humanity. Broken beyond recognition, this victim seems unlikely ever to triumph over the state of pulverisation.

Perhaps Tàpies wanted to mourn those who had been martyred during Spain's long brutal suppression. He was in no mood to soften the image by implying the possibility of renewal, but in the grandest work on view here transcendence is offered without indulging in any facile optimism. The form dominating *Medieval* is a cross, unbroken against a cheerless grey ground. Since no figure hangs there, we might be witnessing the aftermath of a crucifixion. Even so, the incised contours of a ladder stretch from the base to the apex of the cross.

Miró, who exerted a decisive influence on the young Tàpies, used ladders to signify an exhilarating leap between earthbound reality and the untrammelled region of the stars. In his own subdued and gritty way, Tàpies follows suit. Vestigial his ladder may be, but in *Medieval* it holds out the promise of moving from the everyday limits of existence to another, more mystical level of awareness. Having confronted suffering and negation in so many of his images, he here feels able to contemplate the prospect, at least, of atonement.

● Tàpies: *Writing on the wall* at the Serpentine Gallery, Kensington Gardens, London W2 (071-402 6075) until August 9. A show of his recent work opens at Annelly Juda (071-629 7578) on Wednesday.

GALLERY CHOICE

● WYNDHAM LEWIS: It is not surprising that a figure so combative in the arena of art politics should turn out to be a great war artist. Much more surprising is how much of Lewis's first world war work proves to be suffused with pity and terror. For him the poetry was not, as for Wilfred Owen, entirely in the pity; there is a terrible beauty in the way that man in war becomes a machine. Imperial War Museum, Lambeth Road, London SE1 (071-416 5000). Daily, 10am-6pm, until October 11.

● SAMUEL PALMER: A substantial number of works by Palmer have passed through the hands of Leger in recent years, and to celebrate the dealer's centenary, 30 of them have been assembled from public and private collections on both sides of the Atlantic. The works date mostly from Palmer's middle and later years, and there are five from the Shorham period, and two early masterpieces, *The Shearers* and *The Golden Valley*, have been released for the occasion. Leger, 13 Old Bond Street, London W1 (071-629 3531). Mon-Fri, 9.30am-5.30pm, until July 24.

● FLOW FROM THE FAR EAST: The Barbican presentation of new Korean art is evidence of a lively art scene deserving of further exploration. Dai Won Lee, the oldest painter on show, is bright and colourful, shaped by traditional Korean subject matter. Chong Hyun Ha, at the other extreme, goes in for monochromatic paintings with strong emphasis on the qualities of the basic materials. Concourse Gallery, Barbican Centre, Silk Street, London EC2 (071-638 4141). Mon-Sat, 10am-7.30pm, Sun, midday-7.30pm, until July 22.

● DRAWING IN BOLOGNA 1500-1600: Almost all the 61 drawings on show have been borrowed from private collections, more than half have never been seen in public, and some are recent discoveries—despite the prestige of the Carracci family in particular. Bolognese art in the 16th century has been largely neglected. These works show the gradual emergence of a distinct Bolognese style, and point out where it came from with four drawings by Dionysio Calvart, a Flemish artist settled locally who had a decisive influence on the city's younger artists.

Conrad Institute Galleries, Somerset House, Strand, WC2 (071-873 2526) Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 2-6pm, until August 31.

JOHN RUSSELL TAYLOR

DANCE

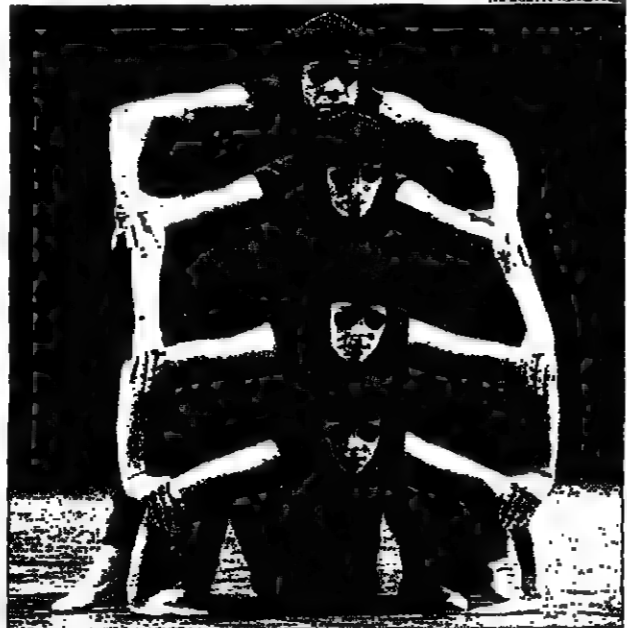
Tokens, twists and trifles

English National Ballet
Coliseum

WHAT a strange programme opened English National Ballet's London summer season: a collection of bits and pieces given only two showings. We could be forgiven for interpreting it as a token gesture to the new choreography of its title. But even half of that qualified as new only to this company.

The properly new came first, with Robert North's *A Stranger I Came*, created for ENB earlier this year, and the world premiere of Kim Brandstrup's *White Nights*. Presented side by side they suffered from a sameness of style, situation and casting. Bodies swirled and skirted yearningly and blandly, long feminine skirts fluttered gracefully and a woman (lovely Josephine Jewkes in both cases) found herself between two men. In the North piece, set to Schubert songs, Thomas Edur, elegant, rather colourless, and Kevin Richmond, suitably menacing, played the man and his fate respectively.

Both ballets offered the dispiriting picture of an art form stuck in the past: we have seen it all before, so often. *White Nights*, though, proved remarkably limited in its vocabulary, requiring Jewkes and her two suitors, Richmond and Christopher Powney, to perform spins and jets with an obsessiveness that soon renders the choreogra-



David Parsons's *The Envelope*: "witty and original"

phy numbingly meaningless. With Brandstrup dance becomes not memorable kinetic patterns, but non-verbal drama, accompanied by subservient, wallpaper music—this time a commissioned score by Gerard McBurney. The problem, though, is that as a narrator he could learn a thing or two from Dostoevsky, from whose short story he extrapolated the ballet's plot. The closing twist, enigmatically depicted, had many of us wondering what message we had missed.

Then followed two jolly *amuse-gueules* by the American choreographer David Parsons: *Sleep Study*, performed

entirely lying down and *The Envelope*, built on a flimsy pretext, but slick, witty and original. We ended with *L* by Ben Stevenson, the company's resident choreographer in everything but name. An all-male showpiece, it looks like an updated version of Harald Lander's popular *Etudes*, combining jazzy swivels with classical pyrotechnics to the percussive music of an on-stage trio. Jose Manuel Carreno led a strong cast, displaying his dazzling gift for soaring, razor-edged jumps and endless, creamy pirouettes.

NADINE MEISNER

ARTS FESTIVALS

Fighting a corner in the same cause

Two imminent festivals are competing for money and public attention. Both sides of a culture clash talk to Simon Tait

Perhaps it was some sort of valedictory prank by Tim Renton, in the knowledge that he would not be arts minister much longer. Why else should the government sponsor two huge arts events, National Music Day and the European Arts Festival, schedule them within a few days of each other and put two conflicting personalities at their helm?

Sunday's National Music Day, the idea of Renton and Mick Jagger, has £100,000 of government money. Harvey Goldsmith, the pop impresario, had hoped to raise another £1 million elsewhere. He managed only another £300,000, enough to cover the cost of launching the event, leaving little for publicity and promotion.

Three days later begins the European Arts Festival, John Major's personal cultural landmark of Britain's EC presidency, thanks to £5 million of government money. The six-month festival is being run by John Drummond, the former Radio 3 controller.

The two impresarios clearly have no time for each other's festival. "It's a joke," says Goldsmith of the European Arts Festival. "It's the club of clubs, it's the mini-Arts Council. You'd think that if you put

trillions of pounds into an arts festival you'd know something about it by now, but it's money down the drain."

Drummond is equally dismissive of his rival's effort. "I don't see why I need to be told I should help with National Music Day because Harvey's upset about the money he got," he says. "It's up to Harvey to argue his corner. What I thought was outrageous was that Harvey expected me to put money into his commercial activities. He wanted money to do *Carmen* in Birmingham [in the autumn] and I said no."

For its part, the European festival is enabling important things to happen. Thanks to Drummond's largesse, Simon Rattle and the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra will perform all of Nielsen's symphonies over three evenings, properly rehearsed: Théâtre du Soleil is going to bring an Aeschylus cycle to a mill in Bradford; Scottish Opera will revive its *Opera Go Round* tour, cancelled for lack of Scottish Arts Council funding; Liverpool's Tate, which might have had to close for the coming winter because of funding shortages, is to be open for a European sculpture exhibition.

But why has there been life. Even Jackson has found a boyfriend who is also an epileptic.

Perhaps those who know they are lucky to be alive acquire an extra dimension. Guy Dewdney, who together with his brother Oliver saved Isobel from certain death at great risk to himself, seemed to regard his own experience as a step on the path to maturity. The relevance of this impressive new series to everyday life was brought home to me when, just after I watched it, two old friends happened to tell me how a juggernaut had recently jack-knifed on the A40, smashing their car but leaving them and their small child miraculously unscathed. *Deo gratias*.

DANIEL JOHNSON



Goldsmith (left) and Drummond: both convinced their projects will be permanent



almost no publicity for the European festival? Part of the fault has to lie with the festival's own poor public relations in the past. According to Drummond, though, "the Press is to blame. It was very surprising that important foreign companies being brought here to perform, and the whole fact of the festival at all having been got together at such short notice, didn't attract the interest of news editors."

"Why is there such cynicism about all this? For the first time in goodness knows how long the government's actually put some money up front, we've sweated our guts out to put this together and the general reac-

tion of the Press is that this is not the proper way to do it."

Goldsmith, too, has had problems attracting interest for National Music Day. He had almost a year, six months longer than Drummond, to get organised, and he admits to making a mistake by asking the advertising world to help. "We were looking to spend a lot of money. If we'd got £1 million we'd have spent £700,000 of it on advertising and promotion, and after three months we got a nil response, total negative."

He got little help, too, from the music industry, meaning the rock record producers. Then some publicised events, such as the Goldsmith-Mack-

intosh celebration of Richard Rodgers at the Albert Hall and Raymond Gubbay's massive *Messiah* at Olympia, were cancelled because of poor box-office response. Meanwhile, the central event on Sunday will not be in Hyde Park but on Clapham Common, because of new rules for the park following the Pavarotti concert there last summer.

Nevertheless, Goldsmith has got 1,548 events registered for National Music Day, perhaps a lot more unregistered, against 650 for the six months of Drummond's festival. But both men are convinced they are working on projects which will become permanent, regular fixtures.

TELEVISION REVIEW

In the midst of death... life

Do you ever wake up after a nightmare, drenched in sweat, but grateful that the worst has not, in fact, happened? Burial alive, death by falling and drowning are among the commonest nightmares, and a mortal dread of all three is lodged somewhere in everybody's subconscious. Dramatists and novelists have known this since time immemorial. And where fiction has gone, fiction is never far behind.

Drawing exclusively on real-life stories of miraculous escapes and spectacular rescues, Michael Buerk's new series 999: *Dramatic Stories of Real Life Rescues* (BBC 1) makes use of the techniques of thriller movies, such as ominous background music, to heighten the tension: it deliberately recre-

ates the victims' fears while celebrating the heroism of those who save their lives. The victims survive in every case, but the bravery of the rescuers is sometimes overshadowed by what has gone before. 999 may serve an admirable educational purpose, but the reconstructions are so much more realistic than those of *Crimewatch* that some viewers might find them disturbing.

In the first of seven programmes, Buerk offered us a young woman trapped and injured beneath the rubble of her block of flats after a gas explosion; a young man on

whose first parachute jump the instructor to whom he was lashed lost consciousness (the whole incident videotaped by the parachutist who saved them); and a first-time water-skier who found herself in the water, pursued by her driverless powerboat.

The last, in particular, was a frightful ordeal, the more so because the victim, Isobel Jackson, began to suffer from epilepsy after the incident and is still unable to put her trauma behind her. After this, one needed little persuasion to agree with the

harbourmaster at Salcombe, Peter Hodges, that such dangerous vessels ought not to be driven by the inexperienced, and that the popularity of water sports has now made a compulsory driving test for all powerboat owners an urgent desideratum.

The best thing about the programme was its insights into the aftermath of such rescues. Despite having lost her sister in the gas explosion, Eva Krejci is now married and seems happy. Mike Smith, the skydiving instructor who passed out in free fall, says he is now more content with his

The musical lovers' musical

CARMEN JONES

WINNER BEST Musical
Olivier Awards 1992

BEST Musical
Standard Drama Awards 1991

BEST Musical
Critics' Circle Awards 1991

BEST Director of a Musical
Olivier Awards 1992

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With South Africa in turmoil, Sol Kerzner is confident that £100 million will be well spent on his Lost City. Michael Hamlyn and Arthur Goldstick report

Sol's city of African dreams

This is the story. Long before the dawn of recorded history a tribe of nomads settled in a secluded valley, blessed with the best abundance of nature. They were gentle, harmonious people, and they became rich through mining gold and platinum, and they built a royal palace for their king.

The palace was built on an island in a sacred lake. It was built with towers and waterfalls, with noble elephants guarding the walls, and leopards guarding the vaults and arches.

But their idyll was not to last. One day the earth shook and the people fled in terror. The walls of the city around the palace cracked and crumbled. The memory of the city faded, and as the centuries passed only spoken legend recalled the Lost City.

Now that city is to rise again. Good old Sol Kerzner is building the Lost City from scratch. He is conjuring the legend into life from a combination of dreams, of folk memories of the lost civilisation of Zimbabwe, of hard money-making plans for an African Disneyland, a game park and water playground with gambling and gold.

Mr Kerzner, who manages to combine the chutzpah of a Donald Trump with the imagination of a Walt Disney, and the physical presence of Orson Welles's Citizen Kane, is poised to transform Sun City, his Las Vegas of the high veld, into something with more international appeal. As South Africa begins to emerge from 40 years of world pariah status, he is repositioning his enterprise to take advantage of the expected floods of tourists attracted by the glorious sunshine, the first-world infrastructure, the almost-third-world prices, from Europe and America and Australia. Recent events in the black townships may now overshadow the image projected by the tourist industry, but this is viewed as a short-term problem.

Sun City in the scrub-covered dry hills of Bophuthatswana has had, not to put too fine a point on it, a slightly tacky reputation. It was where South African racists could take time off in the company of their black mistresses. Where the laws passed by a sort of independent sort of country within South Africa's borders, allowed gambling and topless dancing and erotic movies. Where Tannie van der Merwe could pour her 50 cent coins into the jangling, humming and whirling slot machines while Indian millionaires from Durban could hazard their mansions on the turn of a card.

Now Mr Kerzner's newly hired chief operating officer, Gerard Inzerillo, a New York Italian who learned his hotel-keeping in Nevada

and honed it in Florida, explains: "Africa is grown up now. Now the world is entitled to one of the last authentic mysterious experiences, a true African experience. We wanna position that globally now. We don't need Las Vegas in southern Africa. We have one of the great treasures of the world, which is the African wild life, the African people, the culture, the cuisine, the wine, the music, the outdoors."

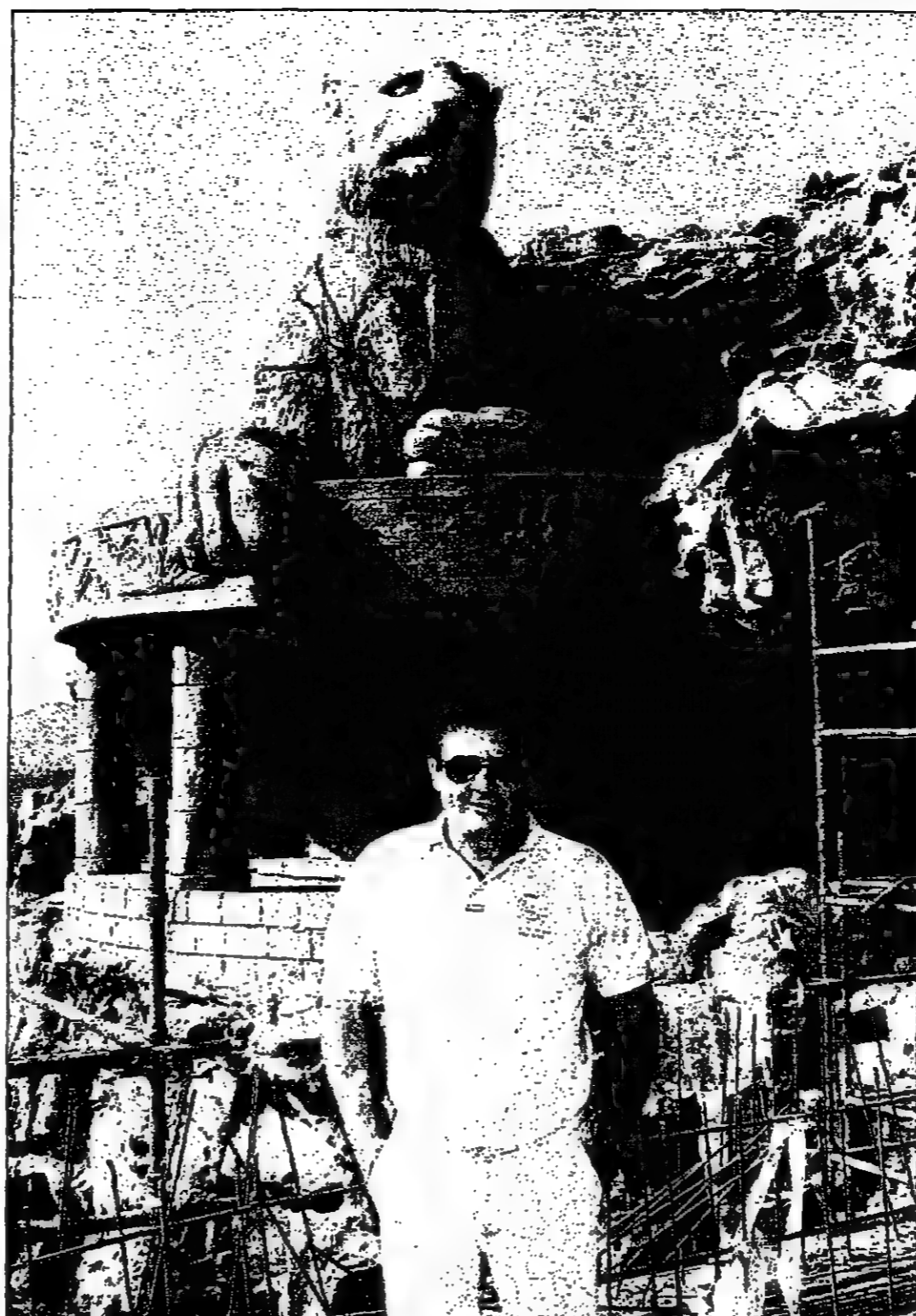
"There was a time when Sun City had a very hedonistic reputation. Expensive. For swingers. Promiscuity. I've been here seven weeks. I've found no evidence of that promiscuity. None. Nor would I tolerate it. There is gaming, there is entertainment. A lot of the entertainment may be suggestive to some people's taste. Some of it is topless. But I'll tell you this. One of my very strategic goals is to capitalise on a global trend now and to reposition Sun City as a quintessential family resort."

So Mr Kerzner's vision of the Lost City with its island palace is taking shape at the heart of a children's aquatic playground. There are to be tube slides along a scenic waterway, a series of water chutes of varying degrees of terror, heated pools and an artificial surf machine throwing perfect waves onto an imported sandy beach.

The South African high veld is at best an arid place. So while bringing in all the water required for these moist pleasures, the designers are also bringing in three quarters of a million trees and jungle plants to surround the playing pools with man-made forests, too. Some will be dry forests — and two ancient baobab trees have already been imported to the area. There will also be wet forests and one forest which will be continually drenched in a fine drizzle.

While the plants are being tended in a hospital nursery, the earth moving and excavation and building is going on with what appears calculated desperation. The opening date is only six months away. The buildings are being carefully constructed of artificial rock, carved and distressed to look as though they have suffered in a quake. A road is being blasted through real rock. "Yes," my guide agreed, "this rock is real, but Sol thinks it is the wrong colour, so it is being changed."

The palace has taken recognisable shape. The style of architecture could be described as jungle baroque. Structurally, it is recognisable as a hotel and conference centre, with hundreds of windows, and some magnificently arranged public rooms. The entrance atrium is domed like St Paul's, lined with a naive but glowing painting of jungle animals.



Dream builder: Sol Kerzner and one of his fantastic buildings rising from the veld

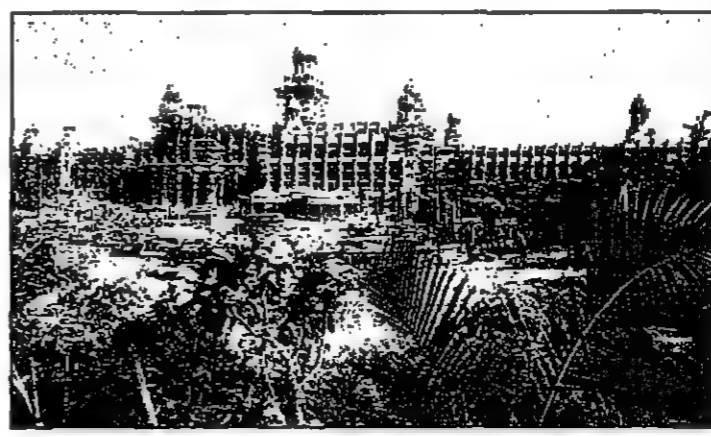
When it was finished Sol didn't like it," my guide said. "So the scaffolding was all put back and it was done again. He was right, of course."

But the main eye-catching features are the towers, each topped with a kiosk of curved tusks. The principal architect of this extravaganza is Gerald Allison, a 58-year-old Californian, whose work already includes a beach resort at Walt Disney World in Florida, and the Magic Kingdom Hotel at EuroDisney. He described his challenge "not to design a hotel, but to build a true palace of an ancient time. Inherent in the fantasy was the requirement to create an architecture that had never existed before."

The elephant is the main theme of the architecture. The huge pillars in the public rooms rest on elephant feet. Elephant bas-reliefs skitter along dorester panels. Elephant carvings support galleries. And last week witnessed one of the first events which will lead up to the

official opening of the Lost City this December — the unveiling of the Shawu. Shawu was one of the so-called Magnificent Seven elephants of Kruger Park renowned in their lifetimes for their size and their ivory. A life-size image of him has been cast in bronze and stands at the heart of the convention centre of the hotel in the "Elephant Atrium". And before an audience which included some extraordinarily distinguished animal conservationists, a theatrical exercise of jungle drums and dry ice, torches, dancers and deep throated African choirs took place to present it to the public.

The association of the resort with animal conservation is something that Mr Kerzner takes pride in, and he, at least, is sure that the Lost City does not mark a step away from his original concept of Sun City. He is already concentrating on the Africaness of the experience, pointing out that right from the start Sun City was associated with a wild game reserve. He announced at the



Jungle gothic: a view of the Lost City of Bophuthatswana

unveiling ceremony that he would be spending a million rand to move a herd of elephant and hippo endangered by the southern African drought south to his reserves, and would build a dam to provide a constant, drought resistant supply of water for them in the future. Reassuringly the first big event

When people come here we want them to say, "Gee whizz!" Sol Kerzner says, standing in the middle of a noisy building site fingering a chain of worry beads. Even as South Africa's townships descend into anarchy, and as wildly antagonistic leaders haggle over the political map of the country, he is spending more than £100 million here on pure pleasure.

To the average white South African Mr Kerzner, one of the wealthiest and most controversial businessmen on the African continent, is a hero who brought them previously unreachable fantasies such as gambling and blue movies. Even among black people who previously boycotted his pleasure palaces, Mr Kerzner is slowly beginning to acquire an aura of acceptability. He is not disturbed by the implications of future African National Congress (ANC) rule in South Africa, despite the organisation insisting on the reincorporation of the homelands once a non-racial government is in power. He began planning the Lost City with that prospect very much part of the overall scenario.

If you look at this project there can be no doubt that it's going to have a very significant impact on the future growth of tourism," he says. "Tourism has everything that the new South Africa needs, extensive foreign exchange earnings, labour intensive jobs. Whatever the final format of the new South Africa is politically, Sun City and the Lost City are going to be a valuable asset."

Just to be sure, though, Mr Kerzner has lately been winning and dining the political elite of the ANC. He gave one of his Johannesburg mansions over to an ANC party a few weeks ago.

On the site of his latest project, as public relations functionaries flutter ineffectually in his wake, Mr Kerzner gets into his stride, and does what he enjoys best: showing his latest toy. Donning a hard hat, he leads the way across half-built bridges and mountains of scaffolding. At every point, he pauses to explain in painful detail the workings of gimmicks. Never mind the fact that, traditionally, there is little in black Africa approaching the Western concept of a royal palace. Mr Kerzner decided he would invent one.

"In developing this I kept saying to the guys, once we decided it'll be a palace, it's gotta be African. It took them almost a year to get the design right. Initially the towers were very sort of mosquey, they then became quite European and cathedral-like. Finally I said to the guys, look man, if there was such a thing as an African palace, it's going to be open, with look-out positions."

The Lost City is the biggest venture Sol Kerzner has ever tackled. But, for once, no one is questioning his sanity. When he launched South Africa's first luxury resort hotel near Durban in 1964, he was just 29. He was dismissed as a "mad kid". Within a year, it was South Africa's premier resort. Four years later, he built another luxury hotel on Durban's beachfront. Another year later, backed by the corporate giant South African Breweries, he established the Southern Sun hotel chain, changing the face of tourism in South Africa.

But when he announced his plans for Sun City, none of that mattered. Once again, he was the mad kid. The opening for a gambling resort within day-tripper distance of Johannesburg and Pretoria came after South Africa had granted pseudo-independence to Bophuthatswana, homeland to the Tswana people. It was the heyday of Grand Apartheid, and the government readily indulged in such bizarre mechanisms for redistributing the black majority.

Mr Kerzner was not interested in ideology. He saw opportunity. As each of four homelands was granted independence, he moved in with lavish offers for gambling rights, casino sites and resort hotels.

In the Transkei homeland, it is alleged, he paid a R2 million bribe to persuade the now deposed president George Masire to give him sole casino rights for the territory. Transkei still has a warrant out for Mr Kerzner's arrest. He has denied that he paid a bribe, saying that the sum was extorted from him at a time when it was too late to pull out of the project. His attitude is that his hotel group, Sun International (Bophuthatswana), is a public company, listed on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange, and its books are open to scrutiny.

He prefers talking about the "lunacy" that persuaded him to build Sun City. "There was absolutely nothing here, there were no points of reference, there was no research and development one could really do to determine whether we would make it." Mr Kerzner is doing some serious wooing of the world's beautiful people. Recently, he found himself lunching with Jean-Michel Jarre, the French keyboard and laser light wizard, dining with Miss World and in between playing tag with at least two TV network crews who had been flown to the site.

If people don't readily swallow his fantasy, Kerzner is willing to make it easier for them. His staff have auditioned more than a dozen London-based public relations companies, in search of an international promoter for the Lost City. With a rumoured public relations budget of close to R5 million (£1 million), that is one constituency that will not object to designer mythology.

Neglected history chained to a railing

The Royal Geographical Society is hoping to break down publicity fences

On May 16, 1932, The Times published a letter from a Professor Debenham appealing for funds for an expedition to settle for ever the last great geographical problem which remains: whether or not the Antarctic was divided into two sub-continents by a wide channel.

While two American air expeditions had already been planned to try to settle the question, the appeal was on behalf of a more traditional form of exploration: "For the last few months," the professor wrote, "in a small room at the Royal Geographical Society, a group of young men have been planning the same journey of 1,500 miles, not by air, but on foot with dog teams."

The leader of the group was Gino Watkins, at 25 the youngest-ever winner of the Royal Geographical Society (RGS) Founders' Medal. Dynamic and good-looking, Watkins had caught the public's imagination in a way no British polar explorer had done since the days of Shackleton and Scott.

On July 8, the Prince of Wales will unveil a new set of railings outside Lowther Lodge, the home of the RGS in Kensington Gore, in west London. This is the building in which Watkins's journey was planned, and in which thousands of scientific expeditions have been organised and analysed since the RGS moved there from Savile Row in 1912. Inside, it is not hard to picture Watkins at work, for the building is little changed.

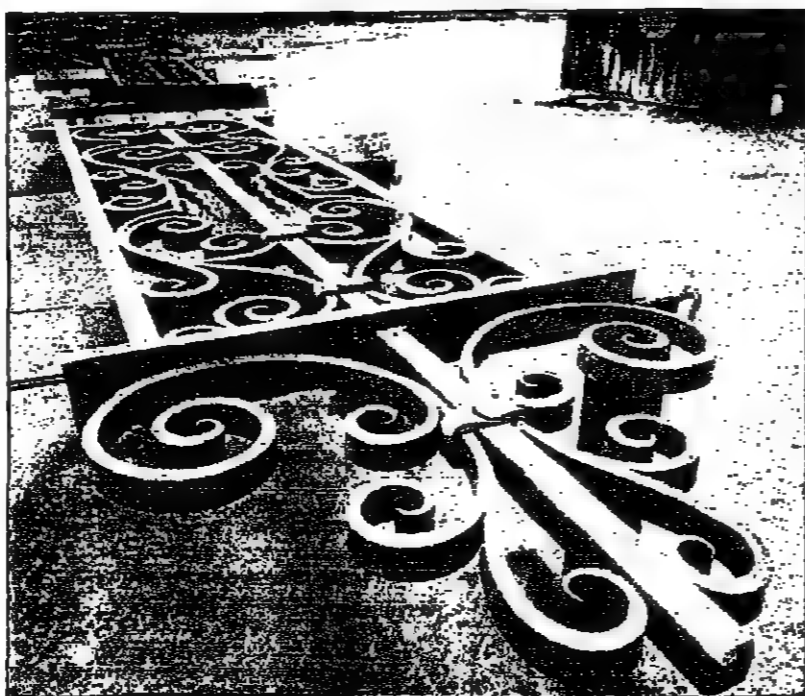
From the outside Lowther Lodge does not have the look of the headquarters of a learned royal society. Although it is a large building, the busy composition of its main redbrick facade, with its many recessions and projec-

tions, its gables, dormers, balconies, chimneys and windows of different sizes, makes it look homely and picturesque, almost cottagey.

In fact it was designed as a private house for the wealthy Lowther family. Completed in 1876, its architect was the innovative, and much imitated, Richard Norman Shaw.

At Lowther Lodge, Shaw was in pursuit of his dream of the discovery of a native, vernacular style, drawing on real and imagined elements of the past. It was built to a "free plan" — rooms were asymmetrically arranged so that they did not necessarily correspond with those on the floors above or below — and contained such "Old English" elements as a great hall and a minstrel's gallery.

The impression, for all Shaw's efforts to aggrandise the place through its scale and the quality of its materials, is one of quaintness. It is an atmosphere which seems to suit the somewhat shabby by displays of antique sextants and 16th-century maps that now decorate the building. In 1912, the story goes, Lord Curzon, the president of the RGS, committed the society to the purchase of Lowther Lodge for £100,000 on the basis of a five-minute conversation with James Lowther, then Speaker of the House of Commons, during the tea interval of the



Old and new: the outside of Lowther Lodge (top) and its new £40,000 railings

Eton and Harrow cricket match at Lord's. One of Lord Curzon's first actions after the purchase was to order the demolition of the high brick wall that masked the front of the building from Kensington Gore.

This wall was replaced with railings, to the design of

Thompson and Walford, the architects, which followed closely the pattern of the railings around Hyde Park, across the road. In 1941, in common with others across the country, they were removed to be melted down for the war effort. There is a story that they were seen intact after

the war — that their removal had been merely symbolic — but if so, they were never replaced.

The new railings, designed by architects Purcell Miller Tritton & Partners, and based in their turn on Thompson and Walford's drawings, are, it has to be said, nothing special. Nancy Davis, chairman of the Lowther Lodge Group, which is dedicated to the building's conservation, describes them as "profoundly neutral in design terms".

The railings are costing the RGS £40,000, an amount it had trouble raising until Arco British, a subsidiary of the American oil and gas exploration company, stepped in with commercial sponsorship. So why bother to replace them? After all, the railings have nothing to do with exploration.

"Our royal charter charges us with furthering the science of geography," says Dr John Hemming, director of the RGS. "The fact that we have a Grade II listed building is very nice, but it's not our main purpose." But, like the removal of their predecessors, the installation of the new railings seems to have a symbolic significance.

The society has more expeditions in the field than it ever had in the 19th century. The number of applicants for grants goes up every year. We

are enjoying, according to Dr Hemming, "a golden age of discovery". But he says, the discoveries made are no longer written about.

"The RGS has always been a fantastically poor society," Ms Davis says. "Geologists don't make millions. When they die, all they leave the society is their library."

The hidden reason for the reinstatement of the railings, and for the proposed development of a block of flats in Lowther Lodge's back garden, is, of course, money: in order to raise its public profile the society needs money, and in order to make money, it needs to raise its public profile.

This is a dilemma with which, oddly enough, Watkins might have sympathised. He, too, was the victim of a recession, and never managed, in spite of his fame, to secure the funds to finance his Antarctic expedition.

Instead he led, that same summer of 1932, a much more modest expedition back to the Arctic, where he had made his reputation. Forced to travel light, Watkins and his colleagues had to hunt much of their own food once they arrived at their destination.

Because Watkins handled his kayak as well as an eskimo, most of the hunting fell to him. One day he failed to return from a seal hunt. His kayak was found floating upside down in a fjord. His body was never found.

The kayak is now displayed, rather perfunctorily and without explanation, in a corridor in Lowther Lodge. If the new railings help to popularise the work of the RGS to the extent that stories such as that of Watkins became common currency again, they will have done their job.

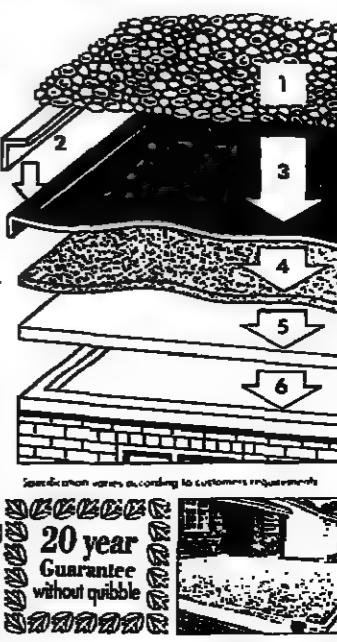
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Primed and timed for healing

The BBC challenges *Coronation Street* with a programme about the medical problems of the famous, reports Alasdair Buchan

When Sue Lawley recently threw in the towel as a chat show host one of her complaints was that not enough famous people would agree to interviews without having something to "sell" — a record, book, film or concert tour. She missed an incentive that a new BBC television series is employing to the full — encouraging people to talk about their health.

Apart from doctors pinned against the wall at parties, many people actually enjoy hearing about others' medical setbacks and recoveries. Equally, a lot of others, including the famous, are happy to oblige.

On the surface, *Fighting Back* (BBC1, Wednesdays, 7.30pm) threatens all the familiar horrors of the talk show genre. A cheering audience with searchlights flashing back and forth over its heads greet the entrance of the glamorous host, the actress Lynn Redgrave. There are no Wogan-style jokes but the guest is first introduced then seated on a revolving stage for a "chat" about his or her most traumatic memories. The series began this week with Mike Nolan, a former singer with Bucks Fizz, talking about the epilepsy which followed his near death in a coach crash. All that seems to be lacking is Loyd Grossman in a surgical mask.

The producers say the glossy façade is there to attract an audience in peak viewing time, but the underlying purpose is much more down-to-earth. "This is not an exercise in peeping through the keyhole," says Michael Latham, the editor of the series, who does not hide the fact that a large part of his brief was to devise a programme that would attract an audience in the most difficult slot for the BBC, opposite ITV's *Coronation Street*. "The one thing that all the people featured in the programmes have in common is that they genuinely want to help others by sharing their experiences," Mr Latham says.

Certainly, the experiences covered by the celebrity guests are serious. Next week the tennis player Arthur Ashe talks at length about how he and his family are coping with the discovery that he has AIDS. Other programmes involve the model



Fighting back: Maurice Gibb, a reformed alcoholic, with Lynn Redgrave (centre) and his wife Yvonne. "This is a wonderful form of giving something back," he says

'The one thing that all the people featured in the programmes have in common is that they want to help others by sharing their experiences'

back so that they can help others."

As a frequent chat show guest herself, Miss Redgrave is firmly, very firmly, of the opinion that talk shows have a cheek asking people who don't have anything to "sell" to appear. "It's a very English attitude to think celebrities are whores who will do anything for exposure," she says bluntly. "The difference here is that these people are not selling anything. They are giving something. They are taking part in a programme in order to help others."

Maurice Gibb, a reformed alcoholic, agrees: "This is a wonderful form of giving something back in return for all the help I was given when I was in trouble. I felt that the

main point of this programme was to get across to other alcoholics and their families that something can be done and that they are not struggling alone."

The studio audience does not participate in discussion on the programme but Miss Redgrave feels it helps her guests relax and tell a better story. "And of course, there is a great deal of humour in the middle of these terrible stories," she says. "The laughter of the studio audience helps the viewers at home pinpoint the spirit in which the stories are being told."

The studio interviews are gentle evocations of the enquiries conducted a thousand times a day in

medical consulting rooms. Questions such as "When did you first notice?" "Then what happened?" "How did that affect you?" are no problem to experienced media performers. But the tenor is deliberately unaggressive, Mr Latham says, in order to provide a balance to some fairly tough filmed inserts. Mr Gibb, for example, has to sit through interviews with his wife and children talking about a part of his life he cannot recall with clarity.

Margot Hemingway, filmed at a London hospital where bulimics are treated, breaks down during a psychodrama session. Miss Redgrave, also a former bulimic, says, "It took me five years after I had stopped suffering from bulimia to admit it in public. Margot is nowhere near that far down the road so I think it helped her to have me to talk to about it."

Miss Redgrave believes that the years of self-imposed secrecy about her illness gives her a particular insight. "I couldn't say I had it, though I knew it was destructive and disgusting. These are all people who

are very bold and are holding nothing back." The 48-year-old actress believes that the cathartic effect she experienced by "coming out" ten years ago might be a help to the viewers as well as her guests.

"When Mike Nolan talked about how the discovery that he had epilepsy was very, very frightening for him and such a terrible low then that's invaluable for a fellow sufferer who is watching," she says. "I know the British tend to feel that problems have to be met with a stiff upper lip but there's more truth in the old saying that a trouble shared is a trouble halved."

Of course, sharing your troubles as a strategy depends who you share them with. Viewers will probably prove more receptive than a plane load of tycoons as Maurice Gibb, who was once ordered off a transatlantic flight as "unsuitable for travel", concedes when asked if he made a conscious decision to "go public". "I think most people had already guessed after I grounded a Concorde," he says.

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Staying mad can be bad

Resentment may be damaging to your health

The idea that resentment can kill is not exactly new. The philosopher Nietzsche observed that of all the negative emotions, resentment was by far the most corrosive. It eats into the personality and stays there, he said, doing ever more harm as the years go by.

And now, some doctors are considering the idea that negative emotions, rather than what we might eat, drink or smoke, are most destructive to health. Of all the "bad health" emotions — anxiety, anger, fear, resentment — resentment they suggest may be the most damaging.

The reason for this, says Dr Richard Tonkin, a consultant gastroenterologist who now runs the Health Screening Unit at the London Clinic, is because there is never any outlet for this emotion.

Unlike many other emotions which may be felt fleetingly and are then dispersed, resentment gets trapped in the system, and, he believes, may eventually affect blood chemistry and the immune system.

"With resentment," he says, "there is a sense of being unable to cope. People who suffer from it feel hard done by, yet normally, they suffer and fume in silence. Resentment puts the body into a state

'People often don't realise they can make a conscious choice to alter their attitude'

of preparation for action. The pulse rises and continual secretion of adrenaline causes overproduction of fats such as cholesterol and triglycerides.

"The problem is, there is no outlet for them at all, as there is never any action. So the excess adrenalin and cholesterol stay in the circulation, clogging up the system."

A typical resentment-sufferer, according to Dr Tonkin, is a sub-manager who believes the chairman is an ass, and fumes about being underused and unappreciated — yet never does anything about it.

"People often don't realise that they can make a conscious choice to alter their attitude," he says. "If you change your eating habits, you'll alter the amount of cholesterol you take in, but unless you alter your attitudes, the danger is still there. My own belief is that, although dietary and lifestyle advice is important, the overwhelming cause of modern disease is the stress caused by negative emotions."

If resentment does affect health, how does one start to get it out of the system? Dr Tonkin believes that health screening clinics can help.

"Instead of identifying risk factors, such as smoking, drinking, saturated fats, which everybody knows about anyway these days, I try to help people get the reins in their own hands, so that they can be in charge of what they do, feel useful, that they are contributing," he says.

GPs are now being encouraged by the health department to run health promotion clinics in their surgeries. But the real health promotion comes, Dr Tonkin is certain, when people understand the good that can be achieved when negative emotions are replaced by positive ones.

Over the past few years, adrenalin has come to be seen as a "bad" hormone, but says Dr Tonkin, it is simply a tool which can be used for good or ill. "It's all a question of how you deal with the situation."

But not all health screening experts accept that the stress caused by negative emotions play a part in health breakdown. Dr David Barkham, who runs a lipid-lowering clinic at St Bartholomew's Hospital, London, says: "There is certainly evidence from animal studies that stress causes a rise in cholesterol levels, and also some work suggesting that unemployed people have raised cholesterol levels. But I don't feel that stress is a major factor in determining cholesterol levels. It's certainly very small compared to diet, weight and activity levels."

LIZ HODGKINSON
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Cars, not pollen, could be more to blame for hay fever

Suffer in the city

My eyes are damp as I write this article: your nose may well be running as you read it. These symptoms may be caused by summer colds but, this year in particular, hay fever is a much more likely diagnosis.

Estimates on how many people are affected — thought to be about one in six — are only educated guesses. Most hay fever sufferers do not appear in the medical statistics because they buy their own remedies from the chemist, or simply put up with sore eyes and snuffles. Hay fever rates will be highest among young people living in cities, and lowest among pensioners in the countryside.

The condition, known as seasonal allergic rhinitis, is most common in people aged between five and 25, but can also suddenly appear, or reappear, in middle age. Between the 1950s and the 1980s the number of people consulting their GPs with hay fever symptoms quadrupled. More recently, the numbers of sufferers are said to be increasing by 5 per cent each year.

"We have every reason to think this trend will continue," says Robert Davies, a professor of respiratory medicine at St Bartholomew's hospital, London.

Sufferers rely on the pollen count — the number of grains of pollen per cubic metre of inhaled air — to find out what kind of day they are likely to have. However, Professor Davies believes a clearer picture would be provided by measuring the effects of car exhaust fumes and other sources of atmospheric pollution.



Summer of discontent: the annual misery of hay fever

However, the rise in the number of people affected by hay fever since the 1950s has coincided with a drop in airborne pollen levels. The result of farmers planting low-pollen grasses, such as ryegrass, and cutting it for silage before it has a chance to pollinate. But production of one particular crop, oil seed rape, has increased tenfold in ten years.

Those densely planted fields of yellow flowers, with their thick powdery pollen, seem an obvious cause of hay fever. But Professor Davies has his doubts. "Oil seed rape is implicated because it smells so strong, and produces flowers just as the pollen levels start to rise. But its pollen is too heavy to be carried far by the wind, and there is little evidence supporting the theory that it can be blamed for the increase in hay fever."

He points out that cars have also proliferated in the post-war years, and that exhaust pollution could explain why city dwellers are more affected by hay fever than those in the country.

Professor Davies says some of the best studies of hay fever have been undertaken in Sweden, where for many years military conscripts have been asked about a variety of diseases. "This research has shown that hay fever is three times more common in conscripts from Stockholm than in those from the country," he

says. "In Japan, where cedar tree pollens are the main cause of hay fever, it has been found that people living near roads are much more likely to be affected than people living in the forest."

Japanese studies have also shown that exposure to diesel emissions stimulates the production of IgE, the allergy antibody that triggers the symptoms of hay fever. "The effects of pollen grains coated with these pollutants are the same as a major rise in the pollen count," Professor Davies says. His own work suggests another mechanism by which atmospheric pollution may cause a rise in the incidence of hay fever. He has found that nitrogen dioxide and ozone from motor car exhausts can damage the delicate hairs in the inner lining of the nose, making it easier for pollen particles to be absorbed.

But do not be too quick to blame pollen or car exhausts alone. Professor Davies says psychological factors influence allergic disease. A field of flowers seen on the cinema screen, walking on plastic grass, or just reading about hay fever may be enough to set off the snuffles.

ANN KENT

For a free hay fever information pack, produced by the British Allergy Foundation, write to Summer Survival Pack, PO Box 21, Godalming, Surrey GU7 2SS.

Ripples from research

CHARING CROSS Hospital is one of the London hospitals which it is supposed would be threatened with the axe if the authors of the King's Fund report on London medicine had their way. Their recommendations would dismantle the London teaching hospital system which has made London one of the five or six great teaching centres of the world. Their express purpose is to make more money available for spending on social workers, counsellors and other members of the primary health team so as to be better able to care for, among examples quoted, the homeless and drug addicts.

The publication of the King's Fund's deliberations almost coincides with a report in *Mims* magazine of research at the Charing Cross which will revolutionise the life of thousands of elderly, mainly very poor, people in the capital and millions worldwide, who suffer from venous, varicose leg ulcers.

Although leg ulcers can affect any income group they are more common in those who have spent a lifetime being overworked, overweight and poorly paid. The ulcers erode the flesh of the lower third of the leg: as it rots the discharge oozes through matted stockings and bandages so that its stench permeates the house or flat.

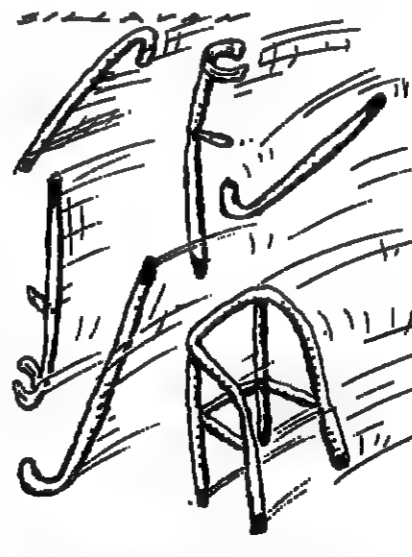
The traditional treatment of leg ulcers is to bandage the leg tightly and instruct the patient to keep her, or less often his, legs



MEDICAL BRIEFING
Dr Thomas Stuttaford

elevated; not easy for an old person living alone and looking after herself. Research shows that within 48 hours the pressure of the bandage, even if expertly applied by the district nurse, has eased off and the bandage is doing no good. Doctors at Charing Cross have developed a four-layered leg covering, which will be known as the Charing Cross bandage system when it becomes available to GPs later this year. It can be left on for a week and does not need to be changed every 48 hours as it maintains a therapeutic pressure for at least seven days. When wearing them, eight out of ten patients are cured within 12 weeks, four times as many as those who have standard district nursing care. The introduction of the bandaging system has meant that twice as many patients can be treated at Charing Cross, and despite this the cost of running the unit has fallen from £400,000 a year to £150,000.

Research at teaching hospitals enquires



into the mundane as well as the exotic, but even high-technology research later has applications for home care. Students who attended the Charing Cross unit will never forget the lessons learnt there: in particular the importance of excluding arterial disease before applying a tight bandage (lest gangrene supervene).

When those students go to their own practices they will carry the knowledge they learnt in London to all corners of the earth.

Death by water

SAD as the bizarre, recent death of Stuart Thompson was — he died after drinking too much water — it is a reminder that anything, even something as innocuous as Oxford tap water, can be dangerous if taken in excess. Several people die every year from self-induced water intoxication; their bizarre craving is usually a symptom, as it was in Mr Thompson's case of schizophrenia.

Death occurs because of a decrease in the concentration of sodium, hyponatraemia, in the blood. In extreme cases of hyponatraemia, the patient suffers stupor, coma and eventually convulsions and death.

Recent press reports of French research have given more reasons why small quantities of alcohol — the authors claim in particular red wine — are beneficial: not only does it increase the proportion of high density, "good" fat in the blood to the low density "dangerous" portion but the wine



has the effect of reducing the stickiness of the platelets so that dangerous clots are less likely to form.

But even the French agree that alcohol, like water, can be dangerous in excess. In the recovery phase after binge drinking the platelets as well as the drunkard dry out, and in consequence may become more sticky: one of the reasons why patients may suffer a stroke or coronary thrombosis after a heavy night's drinking.

Relatives, take note

THE Olympic Games have focused interest on the unnecessary sudden deaths which occasionally occur in young athletes and are caused by the misuse of drugs. Cyclists, for example, may have had coronary arteries after their blood viscosity has been increased by erythropoietin, which increases the production of red blood cells, or by autologous transfusion of red cells.

Tragic as these deaths are, they are avoidable, unlike that of Daniel Vorath, son of the football manager Terry Vorath, who died of hypertrophic cardiomyopathy. Last week the sudden death of a Malvern schoolgirl from the same cause has also been reported. Hypertrophic cardiomyopathy is one of the commoner causes of sudden death in an apparently healthy young adult. In hypertrophic cardiomyopathy the heart muscle thickens abnormally and interferes with the pumping action of the heart by pressing on the mitral valve if the left side of the heart is involved, or more

occasionally if the right side is affected the pulmonary valve, thereby producing an obstruction to the flow of blood. Cardiomyopathies are divided into those which are secondary to other diseases or those which are idiopathic, like those of Daniel or the Malvern schoolgirl, with no obvious cause.

General Practitioner magazine has recently warned that the majority of so-called idiopathic hypertrophic cardiomyopathies are inherited, and that one of the genes responsible has been identified at St George's Medical School, London. It is recommended that the near kin of any sufferer from proven hypertrophic cardiomyopathy should be screened so that its presence can be detected early before its typical symptoms — including chest pain, palpitations, fainting attacks or even sudden death — make their presence known. A modified lifestyle and treatment can relieve symptoms in many cases; others may eventually need a heart transplant.

Too hot to be handled in public

Please answer the following three questions before proceeding with this article: Is your favourite drink: a) champagne and soda; b) Krug champagne; c) lager and lime? Is your favourite sport: a) Bobby Charlton; b) Will Carling; c) Vinny Jones? Is your favourite film: a) Lawrence of Arabia; b) Casablanca; c) Confessions of a Window Cleaner?

If you answer all a) you are probably a regular, well-balanced reader of this column who needs little advice on a sensible car. If you answer all b) you are a reader with erudition and enough money not to worry what you drive. Carry straight on to the Law Report.

If you answer all c), read on because the Nissan Sunny GTI-R is probably the car of your dreams. The Sunny GTI-R is one of those baffling oddities that manufacturers seem to think they must make to prove their own machismo.

Apart from the fact that the Sunny is an absurd name for a car which looks like a roadster and goes like a scorching hot rod, what is its purpose?

There is a place for the high performance car. A car with acceleration, excellent roadholding and brakes is potentially safer than many workaday saloons on which manufacturers have lavished a lot less attention to detail.

The latest Nissan does everything it should, and more. In fact, Kevin Eason says, it is too powerful for comfort

The Sunny GTI-R offers the sort of performance which would leave a Jaguar XJS trailing in its tyre tracks. Crucially, however, XJS drivers are unlikely to feel the need to prove the potency of their motor cars: the model shape and style are enough to prove the owner's credentials.

What does a Nissan Sunny offer? It looks impressive, but only after a fashion which would draw envious looks from adolescent youths. I know, I drove the car for a week. And there seems no other way to drive the Sunny GTI-R than flat out, underlining my suspicion that cars like this are a dangerous step towards losing a licence.

I found myself unconsciously pushing corners harder and harder to try to get to the limits of the car. The problem is that the limits are a long way off and the Sunny lives up to the billing as a model derived from Nissan's current rally programme.

It does everything sensationally well. It is very, very quick, roadholding is always assured and anti-lock brakes have the car pulling to a standstill without a hint of uncertainty. In fact, it is the perfect car for

a rally circuit or a race track, and that is where it should be — not on public roads.

The car is ugly to the point of vulgarity, a design statement which could have been made easier by sticking a sign on the roof saying: "Look at me. I can go faster than you."

The interior is roomy but tacky and the car comes at a price — more than £20,000 — which pushes it into a bracket occupied by some much more subtle machinery from Audi, BMW, and others.

Nissan will no doubt be bewildered by such a vehement attack on a car well received by motoring pundits as a class leader. But the Sunny GTI-R is also the latest in the line from manufacturers turning out cars which have little or no relevance to real motoring: cars with top speeds at twice the motorway limit and no role in life except to scare old ladies or attract speeding tickets.

Supercars will always be made, and Porsche emphasises that its cars are mainly bought by middle-aged professionals with safe driving records. But what happens when the Sunny GTI-R, the Escort

RS2000, and a string of other hot hatchbacks pass under several sets of hands and end up on the used car lot waiting to catch the eye of a buyer?

The eyes they will catch are of the young male motorist looking for the most obvious statement of his driving prowess and a turbo-charged 220 brake horse power motor capable of showing his friends how good he is at cornering on the Friday night out.

Am I being unfair to a class of car proving that high performance need not be the province of models aimed directly at the top strata of well-off drivers? Or is it the case that small hatchbacks with potent performance are like loaded guns just waiting for someone to pull the trigger?

Time, and insurance statistics, will tell all. Let us hope that the Sunny GTI-R falls only to enthusiasts with the sense and ability to handle such a potent package.

NISSAN SUNNY GTI-R

Price £20,553.

Engine: Four-cylinder, 16-valve, turbo-charged 2-litre offering 220 brake horse power through five-speed gearbox and four-wheel drive.

Performance: 0 to 60mph in 5.4 seconds, top speed 144mph, fuel economy 21.4 miles to the gallon of unleaded around town.



The Nissan Sunny GTI-R: apple of an adolescent's eye

ROADWISE

The best mess

BRITAIN'S motorists confessed everything about how they maltreated their cars at the end of National Car Week. Prompted by the *Times*, Atlantic Radio (long wave 252) asked listeners for examples of untidy cars. The response was astonishing. The winner was Susan Dryden, of Leeds, who told how she went on holiday leaving her car with the sunroof open for two weeks. When she returned, it was filled with assorted leaves, one dead cat, a dead rat and two dead birds.

Eau de diesel?

Esso launches its "fresh smell diesel" this week. Four in ten drivers claim they would not use diesel because of its smell, so the company has added a deodorant.

One-ton limit

MOTORCYCLES could be limited to a 100 brake horse power output after a debate in the European Parliament. Bikes on sale in Britain are currently limited by voluntary agreement to 150bhp but concern over accident rates is leading MEPs towards stricter controls. The 100bhp limit is already in force in France.

Frontera win

VAUXHALL has earned its first success off road with its new 4x4 Frontera range. Three Fronteras led the company to the manufacturers' trophy in the prestigious "Four Wheel Driving Force '92" competition, open to drivers from the police and armed forces on the military ranges of Salisbury Plain. Competition came from 54 other teams.

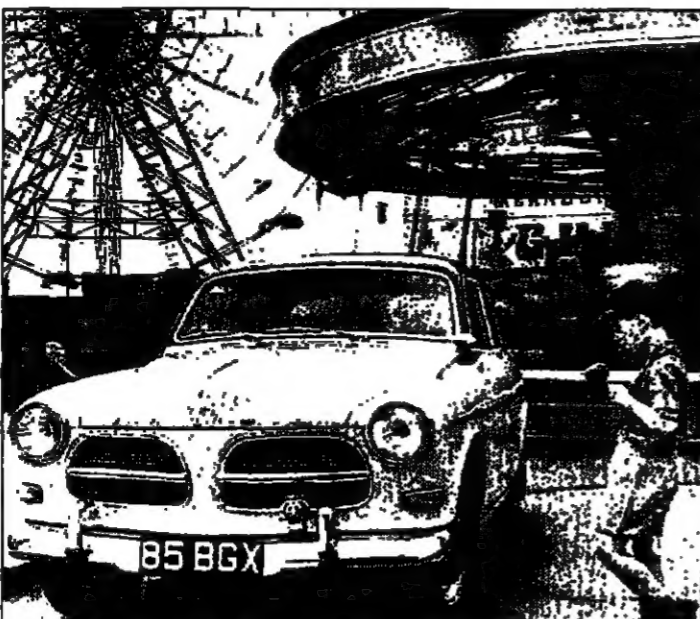
Coupémania

ALL 60 of the special edition Porsche 911 Turbo S Lightweight coupés announced in March at the Geneva Motor Show have been sold... at the asking price of £120,000. Porsche decided to produce the spartan but 3.4-litre, 380 brake horse power models as an experiment but was inundated with requests for the car. Manufacture has been limited to 60.

Low-juice record

HONDA cars have broken the Guinness Round Britain petrol power economy record. Two Civic 1.5-litre VTEC models completed the 3,775 mile route at an average 79.1 miles to the gallon, breaking the previous high set by an Austin Metro 1.3.

£5,000 for restoration work awaits the owner of the first Swedish car imported into Britain back in 1958



Muscular beast? The classic, reliable Volvo 120

Who has the oldest Volvo?

Old Volvos never die. They go on and on to the extent that even the manufacturer cannot remember the car it first sold in Britain.

Volvo's biggest market after Sweden and the United States is Britain, where the motoring middle classes have embraced all the car's virtues of reliability, longevity and safety. Kevin Eason writes.

Volvo says it should recognise such devotion and wants to find the first Volvo imported into the UK, then badge as the 120 Amazon. The company is offering restoration work worth £5,000 to the owner of the oldest British Volvo in existence. There is also a second prize of £2,000 worth of work.

The Volvo Owners' Club is leading the search, which should be narrowed down quickly because

only 50 cars were imported in the first year of 1958.

At the time, Volvo had no image in the UK and cars arrived with a distinctive "sporty" tag being pushed by the Swedes. At a distance of 34 years, it seems amazing that Volvo, that endearing lump of metal, actually thought of any of its models as sports cars.

Yet, its first 120 Amazons, a racy title for a pretty staid car, were sent over as competitors for the old MG Magnette and the like and were thought to be muscular beasts in their time.

Huge cars with puny 1600cc engines were unlikely to set the pulses racing, however, and British buyers somehow managed to scramble their way through the advertising blurb and to the virtues

which they saw as being valuable and which have made Volvo one of the most popular marques in the UK.

The 120s, costing between only £700 and £998, had lap seat belts, then virtually unknown, safety cages and anti-roll bars, laminated windcreens and orthopaedic seats with lumbar supports — features which took other European manufacturers years and several bouts of legislation to catch up with.

And they were solid and rustproof so that they went on for ever and ever. So much so that, of the 1 million Volvos sold in the UK, an estimated 725,000 are still registered and running.

That is a phenomenal record for any marque and certainly a tribute to the incredible toughness of the Volvo.

Now the company is attempting to return to its roots with its latest 850 model, which has just gone on sale in the UK and is being touted as a saloon with sporting values and with driver pleasure as its central goal.

That may be so, but I suspect that British buyers will, as they did in 1958, throw away the advertising copywriter's blurb and start buying the 850 for the same reasons they bought the 120 — for the car's safety and solidity. You can't beat it for a school run.

● Owners who believe they may have the oldest Volvo should visit their local dealer for further information or contact John Leffley, Volvo Car UK Ltd., Globe Park, Marlow, Buckinghamshire SL7 1YQ.

Trade: 071-481 4422
Private: 071-481 4000

CAR BUYERS GUIDE

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071-782 7828

MOTORBIKES

NORTON P1 Ltd edition, Race replica, Delivery, Insurance, Office Tel: 071 570 6484

ALFA ROMEO

194 T SPARK '91 Zender alloy 5 speed, 1000 cc, 1100 cc, 1300 cc, 1500 cc, 1700 cc, 2000 cc, 2200 cc, 2400 cc, 2600 cc, 2800 cc, 3000 cc, 3200 cc, 3400 cc, 3600 cc, 3800 cc, 4000 cc, 4200 cc, 4400 cc, 4600 cc, 4800 cc, 5000 cc, 5200 cc, 5400 cc, 5600 cc, 5800 cc, 6000 cc, 6200 cc, 6400 cc, 6600 cc, 6800 cc, 7000 cc, 7200 cc, 7400 cc, 7600 cc, 7800 cc, 8000 cc, 8200 cc, 8400 cc, 8600 cc, 8800 cc, 9000 cc, 9200 cc, 9400 cc, 9600 cc, 9800 cc, 10000 cc, 10200 cc, 10400 cc, 10600 cc, 10800 cc, 11000 cc, 11200 cc, 11400 cc, 11600 cc, 11800 cc, 12000 cc, 12200 cc, 12400 cc, 12600 cc, 12800 cc, 13000 cc, 13200 cc, 13400 cc, 13600 cc, 13800 cc, 14000 cc, 14200 cc, 14400 cc, 14600 cc, 14800 cc, 15000 cc, 15200 cc, 15400 cc, 15600 cc, 15800 cc, 16000 cc, 16200 cc, 16400 cc, 16600 cc, 16800 cc, 17000 cc, 17200 cc, 17400 cc, 17600 cc, 17800 cc, 18000 cc, 18200 cc, 18400 cc, 18600 cc, 18800 cc, 19000 cc, 19200 cc, 19400 cc, 19600 cc, 19800 cc, 20000 cc, 20200 cc, 20400 cc, 20600 cc, 20800 cc, 21000 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BBC1

- 6.00 Ceefax (58152);
 6.30 Breakfast News begins with Business Breakfast until 6.55 when Laurie Mayer and Jill Dando present news and topical reports with regular business, sport, weather, regional news and travel bulletins (42272551);
 9.05 Perfect Strangers. American comedy series (r) (6903794) 9.30 Hot Chefs. Anthony Worrall Thompson serves up salmon rilletes, Mediterranean sandwiches and an unusual bloody Mary (s) (24959)
 10.00 News, regional news and weather (6751355) 10.05 Playdays. For the very young (s) (4381628) 10.25 Bananaman. Animation, with the voices of Tim Brooke-Taylor, Bill Oddie, Graeme Garden and Jill Shilling (r) (5754442); 10.35 What a Carry On! A compilation of clips from the saucy Carry On series of film comedies (4024442)
 11.00 News, regional news and weather (9575510) 11.05 Travel Show Guides. A look at what the main resorts of south-west France have to offer the holidaymaker (r) (4390143) 11.35 Major Dad. American domestic comedy series set on an army camp (4394336)
 12.00 News, regional news and weather (7629404) 12.05 Summer Scene. Magazine series presented by Caron Keating and Linda Mitchell from the National Garden Festival in Ebbw Vale (8159794)
 12.55 Regional News and weather (6056626)
 1.00 One O'Clock News. (Ceefax) Weather (71930) 1.30 Neighbours. (Ceefax) (s) (59322591)
 1.50 Wimbledon 92. Desmond Lynam introduces live action from day five of the championships. The commentating team is John Barrett, Mark Cox, Barry Davies, Bill Threlfall, Paul Hutchins, John Alexander and Julian Turt (s) (56052249)
 4.10 The All New Poppy Show (r) (2465131) 4.35 The True Story of Spit MacPhee. Episode two of the eight-part children's drama series from Australia. (r) (Ceefax) (4035978)
 5.00 Newsround (6433775) 5.10 Troublemakers. Episode four of a six-part children's drama series (r). (Ceefax) (9079978)
 5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) (s) (941862). Northern Ireland: Inside Ulster
 6.00 Six O'Clock News with Peter Sissons and Anna Ford. (Ceefax) Weather (201)
 6.30 Regional News Magazines (281). Northern Ireland: Neighbours
 7.00 European Football Championship. Live coverage of the final from the Ullevi stadium, Gothenburg, between Germany and the surprise team of the tournament Denmark, introduced by Desmond Lynam with Terry Venables and Jimmy Hill. The commentator is John Motson, assisted by Trevor Brookings (28992423)
 NB: the following programmes may run late if extra time is needed
 9.10 News with Martin Lewis. (Ceefax) Regional news and weather (205065)



Bent on revenge for betrayal: Catherine Oxenberg (9.30pm)

- 9.30 Film: Ring of Scorpions (1990) starring Caroline Goodall, Catherine Oxenberg and Louis Tripp. Canadian horror movie about a young boy and his teenage sister who accidentally discover and open a gate into Hell in their backyard during a weekend when the parents are away. A silly story is kept afloat by excellent special effects. Directed by Tibor Takacs (s) (559775)
 12.55am Weather (1906263)

BBC2

- 6.45 Open University. Victorian Dissenting Chapels (9888249). Ends at 7.10. 8.00 Breakfast News (1814794);
 8.15 Westminster. A round-up of business from both Houses (6309930)
 9.00 Westminster at Wimbledon (r) (655442)
 10.00 Films: G.I. Crazy (1943, b/w, starring Judy Garland and Mackie Rooney). A tenuous Gershwin musical, being shown to mark Garland's seventieth birthday. Rooney plays the part of a wealthy businessman who is sent to an isolated, all-male agricultural college to help him concentrate on his studies and meet a beautiful girl. With Tommy Dorsey and his orchestra, directed by Norman Taurog (39372355)
 11.35 The History Man. Brian McIlveney visits medieval Bungay Castle in Norfolk (r) (5959133); 11.40 Weekend Outlook (r) (5956046)
 11.45 Postman Pat (r) (6183442)
 12.00 Wimbledon 92. Live action from the Centre and Number One courts on day five of the championships. Includes news and weather at 2.00, 3.00 and 3.50 (5623607)
 8.00 The Crescent and the Star.
 CHOICE: Muslim Central Asia is the subject of this useful four-part briefing on some of the lesser-known territories of the former Soviet Union. Each film tackles one republic, starting tonight with Turkmenistan. It is the size of France, but with fewer than four million people, and thanks to its mineral resources has vast economic potential. That, however, is something for the future. Of more immediate concern is the cult of personality building up around President Niyazov, an infant mortality rate five times as high as Britain's and cautious moves towards capitalism. Repressed for 70 years by Soviet atheism, Islam is back, and flourishing, but unlikely, it seems, to pose a threat to the state. Unlike that of the neighbouring Iranians or Afghans, the Turkmen's religion is traditional and non-fanatical. (Ceefax) (s) (6959)
 8.30 Gardeners' World. Geoff Hamilton and Liz Rigby visit the Floride Show, a horticultural extravaganza in Holland (8794)
 9.00 Bottom. Low taste comedy written by and starring Rik Mayall and Adrian Edmondson as a pair of bachelor apartment-sharers at the bottom of life's heap (r) (Ceefax) (s) (5668)



Words against war and want: Adrian Mitchell (9.30pm)

- 9.30 Words on Film: Pieces of Peace.
 CHOICE: Adrian Mitchell's personal documentary in verse sets out to be a treatise on peace and becomes a denunciation of war. Mitchell recalls the death of two uncles in the first world war and how his mother always wore two poppies on Remembrance Day. He remembers growing up in the second world war, being evacuated to the West country and playing blissfully in the woods as the battles raged. The innocence of childhood is a recurring theme, evoked through schoolchildren in Devon and young victims of torture being helped by a London medical foundation. Mitchell suggests that the third world war is a conflict between the rich and the poor, and that "no peace can last if starving people are locked out of the gates of our rich garden". Ralph Steadman's evocative drawings embellish the theme. (Ceefax) (s) (39881)
 10.00 Have I Got News For You? Last in the series of the irreverent news quiz presented by Angus Deayton. Joining the regular team captains, Ian Hislop and Paul Merton, are Cecil Parkinson and Norman Willis (s) (59753)
 10.30 Newswright with Peter Snow (495713)
 11.15 What the Papers Say. Paul Foot of the Daily Mirror reviews how the fourth estate has treated the week's news (656572). Wales: Wales in Westminster
 11.30 Scudry. Ian MacWhirter looks at the work of parliamentary committees (77625). Wales: (11.45-12.00) What the Papers Say
 12.00 Weather (5660114)
 12.05am Film: Death of a Bureaucrat (1966, b/w). The Discovering Latin Wales. A cartoon continues with this black comedy from Cuba about the widow of a factory worker demanding that her husband be exhumed because he was buried with his union card — the evidence she needs to receive her rightful pension. Directed by Tomás Gutiérrez Alea. In Spanish with English subtitles (9042973). Ends at 1.30

ITV

- 6.00 TV-am. (1333171)
 9.25 Cross Wits. Crossword quiz game hosted by Tom O'Connor (6959378); 9.55 Thames News (1629775)
 10.00 Out of This World. American comedy about a teenage girl with an alien father and a human mother (s) (6172568)
 10.30 This Morning. Magazine series presented by Judy Finnigan and Richard Madeley. Today's edition includes French conversation for beginners and Anne Robinson with domestic tips from the Good Housekeeping Institute. National and international news at 10.55 and regional news at 11.55 (48885220)
 12.10 Rainbows. Children's early-learning series (r) (8313341)
 12.30 Lunchtime News with Nicholas Owen and Sonia Rusler (Oracle) Weather: 8.015-8.23; 1.10 Thames News (4585077)
 1.20 Home and Away. Australian family drama serial. (Oracle) 11.55-12.07; 1.50 A Country Practice. Medical drama set in a small Australian outback town (s) (6857782)
 2.20 Highway to Heaven. Jonathan the apprentice angel, on earth to earn his wings and harp, comes to the aid of a down-and-out former attorney. Starring Michael Landon (1750220)
 3.15 ITN News headlines (9557171) 3.20 Thames News headlines (9654084) 3.25 The Young Doctors. Drama serial set in a large Australian city hospital (3541317)
 3.55 The Gingerbread Man. Animation based on David Wood's musical play. (Oracle) (s) (2942625) 4.10 B & B. The concluding part of the excellent family drama starring Kevin Whately as a widowed architect who opens up a seaside bed and breakfast hotel (1885697)
 5.10 Home and Away (r). (Oracle) (1293274)
 5.40 Early Evening News with John Suchet. (Oracle) Weather (129713)
 5.55 6 O'Clock Live. Magazine series on south-east matters, presented by Frank Bough, Joanna Sheldon and Jeni Barnett (947046)
 6.25 The Day. With a Peckham family who have decided to open their garden to the public this summer after joining the National Garden Scheme (828775)



Pints: Nicholas Cochrane (left) and Simon Gregson (6.30pm)

- 6.30 Coronation Street. It's birthday party time for the McDonald twins. (Oracle) (249)
 7.00 European Football Championship. Live coverage of the final between Germany and Denmark at the Ullevi stadium, Gothenburg, introduced by Elton Wesley. The commentators are Brian Moore and Ron Atkinson (s) (678626)
 NB: the following programmes will run late if the match goes into extra time
 9.30 Tarrant on TV. Chris Tarrant takes a wry look at what television, especially American shows of the 1950s that focused on the traumas of growing up (r) (33607)
 10.00 News at Ten with Trevor McDonald and Alistair Stewart. (Oracle) Weather (320773) 10.35 LWT News and weather (371046)
 10.40 Film: Wild Geese II (1985) starring Scott Glenn. Barbara Carrera. Stodgy adventure yarn about a plot to spring Rudolf Hess (played by Laurence Olivier) from Spandau prison. Directed by Peter Hunt (28358442)
 1.05 The James Whale Radio Show. The acerbic chat show hosts tries to upset more intrepid phone-in hopefuls (s) (3509244)
 2.10 American Gladiators. Tests of strength and strategy (1452398)
 3.05 Cinema Attractions. Charlie Tuna with the latest news from the American film scene (75343114)
 3.55 Raw Power. Rock video magazine (s) (8552911)
 4.35 Burke's Law (b/w). Beverly Hills police drama from the 1960s starring Gene Barry (6219466)
 5.30 ITN Morning News with Brenda Rowe (41089). Ends at 6.00

CHANNEL 4

- 6.00 The Channel Four Daily (1331713) 9.25 Schools (84558220)
 12.00 The Parliament Programme presented by Anne Rains (92862)
 12.30 Business Daily (447131) 1.00 Sesame Street (r) (49368)
 2.00 Love Lucy (b/w). Vintage American domestic comedy series starring Lucille Ball (6406423)
 2.35 Film: The Mystery of Edwin Drood (1935, b/w) starring Claude Rains and Heather Angel. A worthy stab at dramatising Charles Dickens's unfinished novel, with Rains in good form as the choirmaster by day and opium addict at night. Directed by Stuart Walker. (Teletext) (2349591)
 4.05 Journey into History. A brief look at the England of Hogarth, Gainsborough, Robert Adam and Captain Cook (2221684)
 4.20 Fifteen to One. The final of the fast-moving general knowledge quiz presented by William G. Stewart (r) (3990161)
 5.00 Female Parts: North, Rose, Wyanne and Dorothy. Nancy Banks-Smith's affectionate portrait of four Lancashire Golden Girls (r). (Teletext) (4978)
 6.00 Blossom. Comedy series starring Mavim Buhk. The only female in an otherwise all-male Los Angeles household. The guest star is Sonny Bono (s) (539)
 6.30 Happy Days. American high school comedy series set in 1950s Milwaukee (591)
 7.00 Channel 4 News with Jon Snow and Shahna Pakravan. (Teletext) Weather (570775) 7.50 First Reaction. Ted Hughes's new book Rain-Charm for the Ducky and Other Poems is reviewed (722572)



Getting away: Clive Moore and Nicola Stephenson (8.00pm)

- 8.00 Brookside. Soap set in a suburban Merseyside close. (Teletext) (s) (4355)
 8.30 The Music Game. Pop to Baroque music quiz chaired by Tony Slattery. Tonight's panel is comedian Tony Hawkes, violinist Cathy Thompson and journalist Alan Coren (s) (3862)
 9.00 Cheers. More bibulous laughs from the staff and customers of the popular Boston bar. Among tonight's guests is chat show host Dick Cavett (r). (Teletext) (3084)
 9.30 Garden Club. Roy Lancaster and Matthew Biggs visit private gardens in Oxford. (Teletext) (31249)
 10.00 Roseanne. (Teletext) (s) (93591)
 10.30 Clive Anderson Talks Back. Last in the series of celebrity conversation. The guests include the editor of The Sunday Times, Andrew Neil (s) (466201)
 11.10 A Stab in the Back. A look at the week's news by David Baddiel of The Mary Whitehouse Experience, political correspondent Michael Gove and Tracy Macdonald from The Late Show (s) (491572)
 11.40 Film: Of Death (1947, b/w).
 CHOICE: Richard Widmark made his unforgettable screen debut as a giggling psychopath in this crisp, shot-on-location thriller directed by the seasoned Hollywood professional Henry Hathaway. Widmark's antagonist is a small-time crook (Victor Mature) who is sentenced to 20 years for robbery but turns informer at the suggestion of the district attorney (Brian Donlevy). Forced to testify against Widmark, a killer not averse to pushing old women in wheelchairs down stairs. Mature finds himself fighting for his life. Widmark's performance won an Oscar nomination and provided a spectacular launch pad for a long career. The story may smack of melodrama but in line with the documentary impact in post-war American cinema the New York streets and apartments and Sing Sing penitentiary are all real. (Teletext) (120133)
 1.30am The Twilight Zone: Nick of Time (b/w). A tale of the supernatural (7637114). Ends at 1.55

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCode
 The numbers now appearing next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCode numbers, which allow you to programme your video recorder instantly with a VideoPlus+ remote control. VideoPlus+ can be used to programme your VCR to record any programme listed with a Video PlusCode. For more details call VideoPlus+ on 0800 121254 (cost charged at 48p per minute peak, 30p off-peak) or write to VideoPlus+, VTM Ltd, 77 Fulham Palace Road, London W6 8JA. VideoPlus+, VideoPlus+ and Video PlusCode are trademarks of Genstar Marketing Ltd.

SATellite

- SKY ONE
 Via the Astra and Maripolo satellites.
 6.00am The DJ Kat Show (1939881) 8.40 Mr Peppers (1005930) 8.55 Lingo Shows Play-A-Long (5633607) 9.30 The Pyramid Game (71851) 10.00 Let's Make a Deal (11084) 10.30 The Bold and the Beautiful (49794) 11.00 The Young and the Restless (48626) 12.00 St Elsewhere (51404) 1.00pm Street (42442) 1.30 Goodies (473220) 5.00 Facts of Life (2775) 5.30 Diff'rent Strokes (2268) 6.00 Love at First Sight (2831) 6.30 E Street (3193) 7.00 All (2559) 7.30 Naked Came (9317) 8.00 The Flash (87189) 9.00 W.F. Supers of Wrestling (87189) 10.00 Stars (19775) 10.30 Film: Invasion of the Star Creatures (95442)

SKY NEWS

- Via the Astra and Maripolo satellites.
 6.00am News (2986862) 8.30 Nightline (76423) 10.00am News (19620) 10.30 News (1970-1991) 14.30 News (19620) (95972) 11.30 Japan Business Today (4193559) 11.45 International Business Report (1020131) 12.30pm Good Morning America (r) (83978) 1.30 Good Morning America 2 (84607) 2.30 Parliament (14779) 3.30 ABC News (45161) 12.30pm Newsline (1970-1991) 9.30pm Live At Five (50607) 6.30 Newsline (64607) 8.00 Memories 1970-1991 (82591) 8.30pm Newsline (59538) 11.30 ABC News (45161) 12.30pm Newsline (48640) 1.30 ABC News (26777) 2.30 Travel Destinations (17640) 3.30 ABC News (29485) 4.30pm Newsline (54008) 5.30 Newsline (96553)

SKY MOVIES+

- Via the Astra and Maripolo satellites.
 6.00am Showtime (3174607)

SKY SPORTS

- Via the Astra and Maripolo satellites.
 6.30am Morning Stretch (94047) 7.00 Red Line (84988) 8.00 The Ultimate Challenge (Hockey) (96201) 9.00 Sports Special (74143) 10.00 British Rugby League (880794) 1.00pm Rugby League (41268) 3.00 Australian Rules Football (40591) 8.00pm Football (14420) 9.00pm Football (14420) 10.00pm Football (14420) 11.00pm Football (14420) 12.00pm Football (14420) 1.00pm British Rugby League (72607) 1.30pm WFF Body Stars (12588) 5.30pm The Ultimate Challenge (Hockey) (96201) 6.00pm Motorsporting (74599) 11.30pm U.S. Olympic Athletics (29997) 1.00am British Rugby League (30088)

EUROSPORT

- Via the Astra satellites.
 8.00am Ten Man (10688) 9.30pm The Final (96201) 10.00pm Olympics (48152) 10.30pm World Sport (14220) 11.30pm Superstars (51274) 12.30pm Karing (27381) 1.00am Fight Hockey (28065) 2.30pm Football European Championships (124350) 5.00pm (s) (2306m) 6.30pm News (5133) 7.00pm Football European Championship (17564) 8.00pm (s) (2306m) 9.00pm Boxing (66997) 10.00pm Football (12130)

SCREENSPORT

- Via the Astra satellites.
 7.30pm British World Championship (62220) 8.00pm Bowling (39599) 9.00pm Football (71404) 9.30pm Football (71404) 10.00pm Football (71404) 11.00pm Football (71404) 12.00pm Football (71404) 1.00pm Football (71404) 2.00pm Football (71404) 3.00pm Football (71404) 4.00pm Football (71404) 5.00pm Football (71404) 6.00pm Football (71404) 7.00pm Football (71404) 8.00pm Football (71404) 9.00pm Football (71404) 10.00pm Football (71404) 11.00pm Football (71404) 12.00pm Football (71404) 1.00pm Football (71404) 2.00pm Football (71404) 3.00pm Football (71404) 4.00pm Football (71404) 5.00pm Football (71404) 6.00pm Football (71404) 7.00pm Football (71404) 8.00pm Football (71404) 9.00pm Football (71404) 10.00pm Football (71404) 11.00pm Football (71404) 12.00pm Football (71404) 1.00pm Football (71404) 2.00pm Football (71404) 3.00pm Football (71404) 4.00pm Football (71404) 5.00pm Football (71404) 6.00pm Football (71404) 7.00pm Football (71404) 8.00pm Football (71404) 9.00pm Football (71404) 10.00pm 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